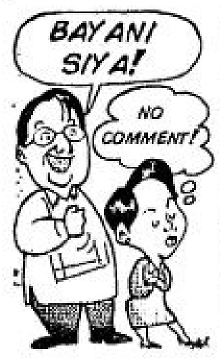
Pacer shoots dead 3 kidnap suspects

STORY ON PAGE A2

Mike lauds Sonny heroism


BAYANI SIYA!
NO COMMENT!

By Dona Pazzibugan

WHILE First Gentleman Mike Arroyo lauded Parsons' "heroism" and even offered Malacañang's legal services should it be necessary, President

MIKE/ A15

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER Sunday
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS
e-mail: feedback@inquirer.com.ph
July 21, 2002 ★ 72 pages / 7 sections / vol.17 / no. 223 P15
website: www.inq7.net

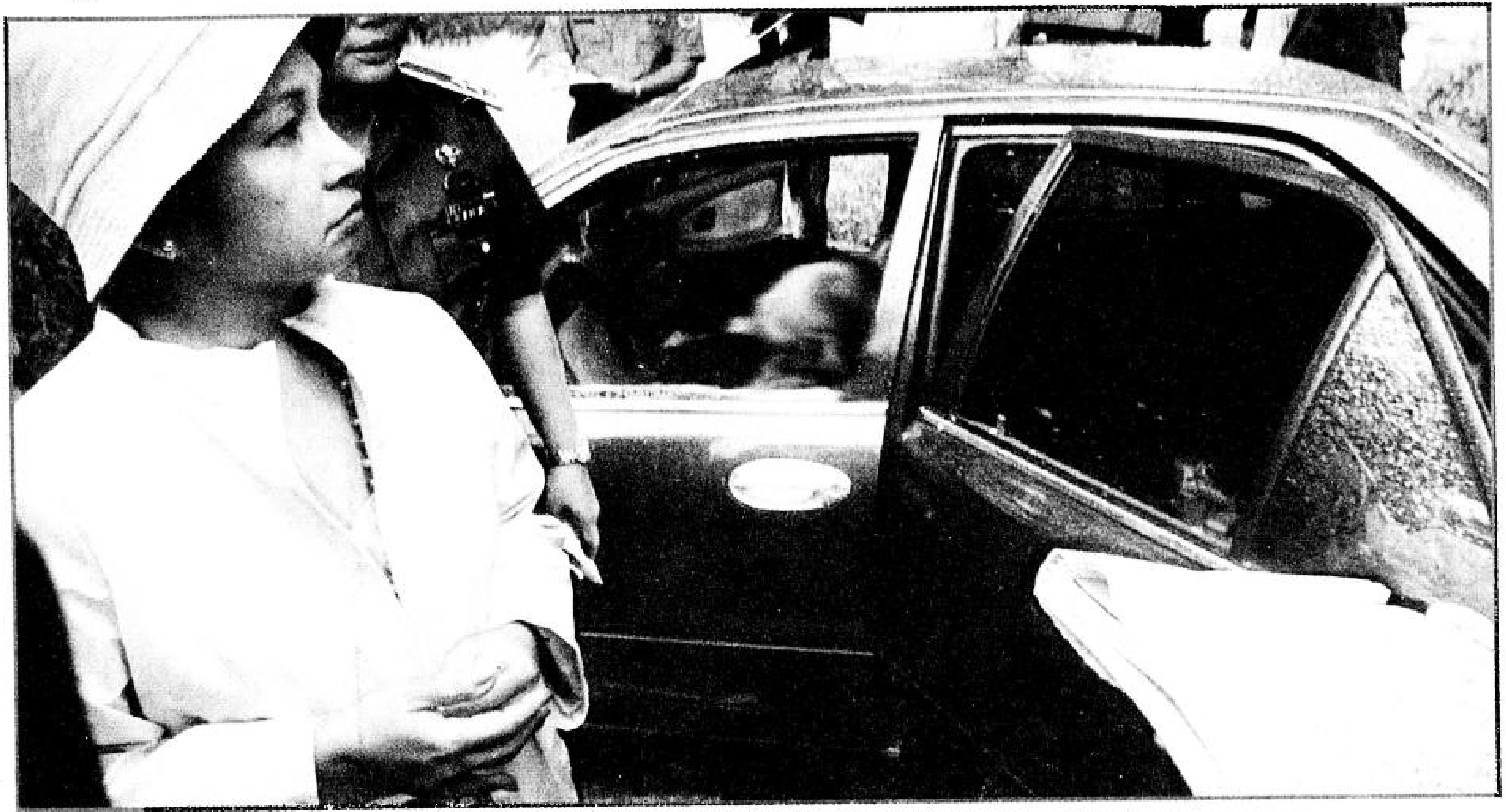
INQUIRER
PNP

ROMY HOMILLADA

PNP REDUX. Fr. Jerry Orbos' T-shirt said "I love the NYPD" when he spoke to the PNP last January. He had a change of heart at a testimonial dinner for PNP chief Ebdane last Thursday.

'We're solid as a rock'

Angara scolds GMA for trying to destroy Senate minority



EDWIN BACASMAS

PACER GOES FULL BLAST

And President Macapagal makes certain the Police Anti-Crime Emergency Response (Pacer) keeps at it. On Saturday, she visits the site in Marilao, Bulacan, where three suspected members of the Villaver kidnap gang were gunned down by members of Pacer, its first blast since it was formed last week. *(Story on Page A2.)*

By Tonette Orejas
PDI Central Luzon Desk
and Cynthia D. Balana
in Manila

CLARK SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE—No one from the opposition bloc is jumping ship, according to Sen. Edgardo Angara, chair of the Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino.

"The ranks of the opposition are solid," Angara said yesterday at a news conference wherein his bloc announced its legislative agenda for the 12th Congress that opens tomorrow. Asked how solid, he said: "As a rock."

"That means we are going to stand united and we will push for our legislative agenda and we will help each other rather than bring down the whole group," he said.

Of the opposition senators, Teresa Aquino-Oreta, Panfilo Lacson, Luisa Estrada and Robert Jaworski were not at the press conference. But Oreta and Lacson joined the LDP's annual workshop here on Friday. Jaworski arrived from the United States only yesterday morning.

Without naming names, Angara said the worst-case scenario of "one or two" senators leaving the opposition would not likely happen. If it does, it is not the opposition that will be damaged but "the institution of the Senate and the reputation of President Macapagal-Arroyo," he said.

A highly placed source in Malacañang earlier told the INQUIRER Jaworski would break the Senate impasse at tomorrow's opening of Congress. That, along with opposition Sen. Vicente Sotto's appointment as overall consultant in the government's campaign against illegal drugs, will tilt the balance in favor of the administration bloc, the source said.

But Angara said Jaworski had denied he was leaving the opposition.

Sen. Blas Ople said Jaworski was to meet with opposition senators last night to reaffirm his support for the group.

Ople said he had no complete knowledge of any offer to Sotto and Jaworski. But he expressed confidence that the two would not bolt.

Sotto himself said he had accepted the administration's offer but that there was no need for him to abandon the

WE'RE/ A14

Cory: No to power post; yes to prayer power

BETOY JOHNSON

NOT interested in her nomination for United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, former President Aquino intends to be of service in her own country.

By Norman Bordadora

PRAYER power and a scheduled papal visit make former President Corazon Aquino stay put in the country even after she received news that her name had been included in the list of nominees for the United Nations High Commissioner of Human Rights.

Instead, Ms Aquino is focusing her attention on religious activities. She wants to get 1 million Filipino families to consecrate themselves to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary in time for Pope John Paul II's visit to the Philippines next year.

"She is flattered to hear the news. But she said she (preferred) to stay here in the country to be of service to her countrymen in her capacity as a private citizen," said Lourdes Siytangco, spokesperson of Ms Aquino.

Siytangco told the INQUIRER that Ms Aquino was considered for the same post five years ago but she had similarly expressed disinterest in it.

Mary Robinson, the former president of Ireland, was named the high commissioner then. Her term ends in September and she is not seeking a second term.

"There has been no formal offer. But this is the way things are done. They float the possible nominees to gauge their reaction to the possibility (of being appointed) high commission(er)," Siytangco said.

Ms Aquino is on a tour of schools and churches as a part of the run-up to the 4th World Meeting of Families in January next year. The Pope will attend that meeting. It will be his third visit to the country.

Ms Aquino's campaign, called Prayer Power, seeks to promote the Mass and the Holy Rosary and to consecrate at least 1 million families to the Sacred Heart and the Immaculate Heart and to nurture devotion to Our Lady of Guadalupe as Patroness of the country.

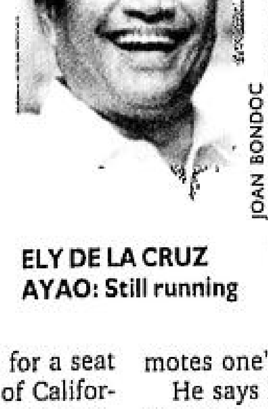
The list of consecrated families will be placed in a compact disc, which will be turned over to the Pope during his visit.

Last month, hundreds of students from Catholic schools filled the Sto. Domingo Church in Quezon City as part of Ms Aquino's prayer campaign.

Last Thursday, Ms Aquino was at the St. Mary's Academy in Caloocan City for an afternoon of prayer.

Ex-janitor set to make history in California

By Louie C. Camino
Metro Editor



JOAN BONDOC

ELY DE LA CRUZ AYAO: Still running

LIKE many country boys who eventually make good, Ely de la Cruz Ayao did a lot of walking when he was in grade school—and a lot of running, too, in his swampy hometown in Canaman, Camarines Sur, where the river meets the sea.

Now 51, the one-time school janitor is still running, this time for a seat in the State Assembly of California. If he wins, Filipino-Americans—together with the other ethnic groups in that state—will be represented for the first time in its legislature.

"I'm not running for Ely de la Cruz Ayao," he declares while in Manila on a business trip. "I'm running for Juan de la Cruz."

For Filipino-Americans, Ayao's victory can mean "one voice," as he says in his campaign fliers. It can mean clout, and history.

The assembly is the state's Lower House, the Upper House being its Senate. If elected, Ayao will be one of the assembly's 80 members who will serve a two-year term.

Ayao is a Republican like US President George W. Bush because, he says, "the Republican philosophy promotes one's ability to excel."

He says he is one of only two Filipino-Americans standing in the US assembly election on Nov. 5—not bad for someone who was once afflicted with paralysis.

The story of his success is not simply about another native son who moved to the United States in search of a better life and actually found it. His story may become even more inspiring after the November race.

EX-JANITOR/ A14

US troops build 'corruption-free' airstrip

By Julie S. Alipala
PDI Mindanao Bureau

ISABELA CITY, Basilan—After more than a decade of neglect, two weeks of work by US engineers was all it took to rehabilitate the 50-year-old airstrip in Barangay Cabunbata.

The 37-meter-wide, 1.4-km-long airstrip was formally inaugurated and turned over to local officials yesterday, and guests were profuse with superlatives.

"This is a very historic and symbolic occasion for us here," said Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes. Adelberto Yap, chief of the Air Transportation Office (ATO), said it was the "the best thing that ever happened to Basilan."

Sixty US engineers belonging to the Naval Construction Task Group led by Maj. Dan Miller worked to rehabilitate and expand the airstrip, Reyes said at the ceremonies attended by Philippine military officials, Basilan Rep. Gerry Salapuddin, Vice Gov. Lucman Ampao and Barangay Cabunbata chair Edgardo Arquiza.

The job was started on May 17 and completed on the 31st.

US/A14

"THE BEST thing that happened to Basilan": The rehabilitation of a long-neglected, 50-year-old airport which was completed in two weeks. The 37-meter wide and 1.4-km long airport was formally turned over to local officials on Saturday.

ROGER MARGALLO

TULOY-TULOY NA KAYA YAN?!

Second FRONT PAGE

3 KIDNAP SUSPECTS KILLED

Pacer scores first hit

By TJ Burgonio

PACER, the newest elite police anti-crime unit, made its auspicious introduction to the underworld yesterday after its operatives killed three suspected members of a notorious kidnap for ransom gang.

Pacer, or Police Anti-Crime Emergency Response, agents engaged members of the Villaver gang in a running gunbattle in the Town and Country North Executive Village in Marilao, Bulacan, at around 1:30 p.m., said Senior Supt. Edgardo Acuña, Bulacan provincial director.

Acuña identified the slain suspects as Lito Mercado, Gilbert Espina and one known only as Alvin.

Espina and Alvin died on the spot from multiple wounds while Mercado was declared dead on arrival at a hospital.

Recovered from the suspects were a .45 cal. pistol, a .38 cal. revolver, two mobile phones, three hand grenades and a Mitsubishi Lancer.

Victim list

The gang had been headed by Rolando Villaver, who was arrested with two members in Alaminos, Laguna, December of last year. The arrests, however, failed to neutralize the gang.

The gang was believed responsible for the kidnapping of Ricardo Tan in February, and Victor Castañeda, Romeo Panganiban, Mary Grace Cheng Rosagas (daughter of Uratex owner Robert Cheng), Connie Wong (who was found dead), Michele Dee Santos (granddaughter of taipan Alfonso Yuchengco) and Michael Ng last year.

Police estimated the group's total take from ransom payments last year at P56 million.

Acuña, whose men joined the Pacer operation, said the Villaver group was affiliated with the Fajardo gang, one of the two most notorious kidnap for ransom gangs in the country, the other being the Bucala group.

Pacer was created last week to replace the National Anti-Kidnapping Task Force (Naktaf).

GMA visits

Prior to yesterday's encounter, President Macapagal-Arroyo had directed new national police chief Deputy Director General Hermogenes Ebdane Jr. to go after 21 known kidnap groups, particularly the Bucala and Fajardo gangs, which are composed of discharged military men.

"She reiterated her instruction for us to go full blast (against kidnapping)," Ebdane told reporters during a break in training of Pacer personnel at Camp Crame, Quezon City, yesterday morning, hours before the encounter in Bulacan.

The President herself dropped by Camp Crame to witness 25 Pacer agents complete a six-day training under two Scotland Yard instructors.

Ms Macapagal declined to discuss the details of the course, but she appeared satisfied with it.

"The course that I have just observed is very confidential, that's why I can't give you any details," she told reporters. "This is an offshoot of the help I told you we would seek from Scotland Yard."

THE CRUMPLED body of one of the three kidnap suspects killed by Pacer agents lies in the front seat of the gang's vehicle. EDWIN BACASMAS

Ebdane said the two British police officers, whom he declined to identify, had come to Manila to "assess what we need" in the anti-kidnap campaign.

"They have actually sat in to find out how we are doing it and, according to them, they are even learning something as far as the Philippine scenario is concerned," Ebdane said.

Bigger training

The two are part of an advance party of British officers who will be conducting training on anti-kidnapping in Manila in October, he added.

"They will also put up a much bigger program for the PNP, the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the National Bureau of Investigation," he said.

Acuña said Pacer and Bulacan police operatives set up checkpoints inside Town and Country North Executive Village after receiving reports the Villaver gang was scheduled to meet at a restaurant there.

Just after 1 p.m., policemen flagged down a Mitsubishi Lancer at one of the checkpoints, but the driver drove on and the passengers opened fire at the officers.

The policemen chased the suspects and caught up with them on Mahogany Street in the subdivision, Acuña said.

Massive protests to greet Gloria's Sona tomorrow

By TJ Burgonio

MASSIVE protest rallies will be staged during President Macapagal-Arroyo's State of the Nation Address (Sona) tomorrow at the Batasang Pambansa in Quezon City, militant groups announced yesterday.

More than 10,000 farmers and fisherfolk are set to take to the streets to protest the President's alleged failure to keep the promises she made in last year's Sona, the Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas said.

"The peasants have had enough of the anti-people Macapagal government," KMP chair Rafael Mariano declared in a statement.

The Pambansang Lakas ng Kilusang Mamalakaya ng Pilipinas (Pamalakaya) noted that the "Strong Republic" theme of President Macapagal's Sona was a mere recycling of Ferdinand Marcos' "Bagong Lipunan."

Kilusang Mayo Uno belied the President's claim that the country was treading on economic recovery.

"She speaks of an illusion," said Joel Maglunsod, KMU secretary for federation affairs. "Behind the upward economic statistics is the stark reality that workers and other poor sectors have remained poor, hungry and oppressed."

The police said they were prepared for the protests. Deputy Director General Edgar Aglipay of the National Capital Region said 8,000 policemen would be deployed around Metro Manila to keep the rallies peaceful. The military has activated "Task Force Libra."

Another 5,000 demonstrators were expected from the ranks of the Bagong Alyansang Makabayan in Southern Tagalog (Bayan-ST), said Pastor Mel Abesamis, secretary general.

He said the group would start with a caravan at the Turbina, Calamba, Laguna (South Luzon Expressway entrance) at 7:30 a.m. and join the national delegation at 1:30 p.m. in Quezon City.

Fr. Jose Dizon, spokesperson of Plunder Watch, urged concerned individuals and organized groups to come out and "demonstrate the real state of the nation."

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Opposition for axing IPP deals

CLARK SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE—Opposition legislators will seek the rescission of the "grossly onerous" contracts of the independent power producers (IPPs) under the quasi-government National Power Corp. and the private sector.

This would be after the bipartisan review by an international panel of experts of the IPP contracts that are being blamed for the high cost of electricity today, the opposition Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino said yesterday.

The LDP met here over the weekend to draft its legislative agenda. Copies of the final draft, which included the action on the IPP contracts, were distributed to reporters at the close of the two-day workshop that identified key areas for reform.

The opposition lawmakers said they would push for the review of the IPP contracts after finding that the legal and financial reviews conducted earlier by the government on orders of President Macapagal-Arroyo were "inadequate."

In that review, of the 43 contracts of IPPs under Napocor, only six were found to be without flaws.

Sen. Edgardo Angara said the contracts of IPPs belonging to the private sector were "ignored" during the investigation by the government.

Under the LDP proposal, private IPPs would be subjected to a "thorough legal, financial and operational review," he said.

He added the party would also push for an alternative bill on the purchased power adjustment (PPA) as well as amendments to the new power reform act.

The PPA is a charge tacked on to consumers' electric bills that is paid to the IPPs, regardless of whether electricity was consumed or not.

The Electric Power Industry Reform Act, which Congress passed recently, was supposed to lower electricity rates.

Sen. Blas Ople said the LDP was taking a "hardline position" on the IPP contracts because these were "indisputably onerous."

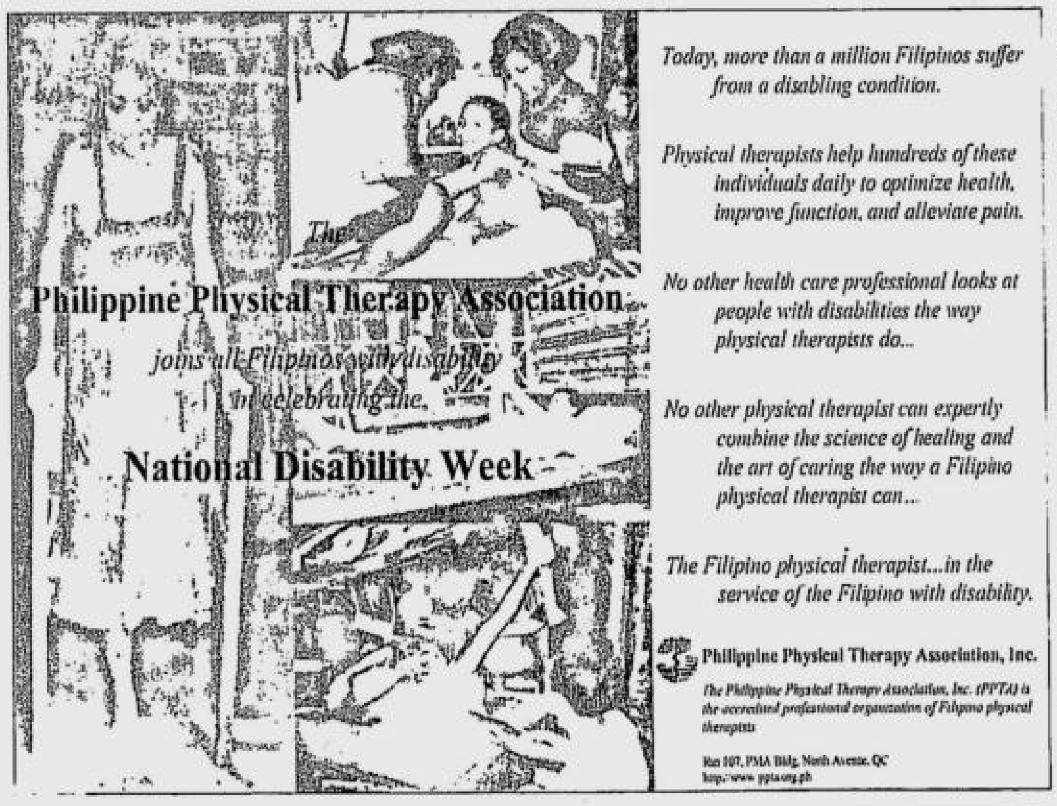
"We want a complete abrogation of these contracts," he said, adding the public's welfare was "completely prejudiced" by the deals.

Consumer groups in the last two months have decried the high cost of electricity.

The Macapagal administration recently ordered electric rates lowered by a few centavos to provide immediate relief to consumers and to stem growing protests, the opposition claimed.

The LDP took up the power issue after a Freedom from Debt Coalition study showed the IPP review conducted by the government had focused only on legal and financial issues.

The review did not look into the operations of the power plants and if these were viable, the FDC said. *Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk*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Signal 1 raised over M Manila

CENTRAL and southern Luzon, including Metro Manila, will experience a rainy weekend as tropical depression "Juan" continues its wide northward swath today.

The weather bureau expanded last night the area of the storm's coverage, raising Signal No. 1 over Metro Manila, the Camarines provinces, Marinduque, Albay, Romblon, Quezon, the Mindoro provinces, Batangas, Laguna, Cavite, Rizal, Bataan, Bulacan, Pampanga, Zambales, Tarlac, Nueva Ecija and southern Aurora.

Provinces where Signal No. 1 was dropped were Northern Samar, Masbate and Sorsogon.

As of 4 p.m. yesterday, Juan's center was spotted over Peres Bay in southern Quezon, 70 kilometers southeast of Alabat town.

Strongest sustained winds reached 55 kilometers per hour near the storm's center, as it moved northwest at 11 kph.

By Monday afternoon, Juan is forecast to be 130 km northwest of Baguio City. *Volt Contreras*

I did not meet GMA, Ople says

ANGELES CITY—President Macapagal-Arroyo did not meet with him shortly after he returned from abroad early this month, Sen. Blas Ople said yesterday.

Ople said he wanted to "set the record straight" on reports the President had met with him to offer him the post of foreign affairs secretary.

Ople said the President had merely called him on the phone to welcome him back. The call, which lasted less than a minute, he admitted, centered on the foreign affairs portfolio.

"*Pero puro pahiwatig lang. Hindi pormal* (But there was nothing formally offered)," he said.

Ople was here for the two-day annual workshop of the Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino.

He admitted the President's gesture surprised and pleased him. He said it was the first time she had welcomed him back since becoming President.

"It was unusual," he said. "She was probably feeling very friendly and cordial toward me."

Sen. Edgardo Angara, LDP president, said he believed Ople would not take the foreign affairs post if it was offered to him.

He said all the members of the opposition relied on Ople for advice and wisdom, he being the "dean of senators." *Cynthia D. Balana*

RP 'most improved' in Asia, survey shows

By Roy S. de Guzman
Contributor

THE JUST-RELEASED 2002 "Economic Freedom of the World" (EFW) survey, has ranked the Philippines among the 10 countries—and the only one in Asia—that saw the "most substantial" improvement in the last 30 years.

Overall, however, the Philippines lagged behind Asian rivals Hong Kong, Japan and Singapore as it placed only 38th out of 123 countries surveyed. But the Fraser Institute (FI), based in Vancouver, noted the Philippines' "modest but steady progress."

FI described economic freedom as the level of liberties enjoyed by foreigners and native citizens alike to engage in trade or go into business.

The annual survey focuses on economic situations in the monitored countries. Political or civil liberties are tackled by other groups like Freedom House's "Freedom of the World" report, Transparency International's "Corruption Index," or Reporters Sans Frontieres' "Press Freedom Survey."

Covering the years 1970 to 2000, the latest Fraser survey indicated that the Philippines, which was given a 4.67 rating for 1970 (out of a perfect 10), boosted its mark to 7.18 as of 2000.

Hong Kong led the pack as the "World's Freest Economy," with Singapore coming in second, and the United States third.

The Philippines scored highest in "Access to Sound Money," but rated lowest in "Legal Structure, Integrity of the Legal System and Protection of Property Rights."

Citing weaknesses in the prevailing system, the survey warned that reforms "did not stand a chance in the face of a bloated bureaucratic structure and political give-and-take."

The first EFW report was published in 1996 after a decade-long research involving over 100 scholars and several Nobel laureates. Economic freedom was measured in terms of governments' intervention or non-intervention in free trade. Also factored in were how the countries upheld the rule of law, property rights, freedom to trade, and access to sound money.

Conclusion based on the latest report: Economic freedom is on the rise worldwide. "This has spurred a worldwide increase in wealth, and unprecedented poverty reduction," FI said.

Most of the lowest ranking nations were in Africa and Latin America. Botswana posted the best record for an African nation, tied at 38th with six other countries, including the Philippines, France and South Korea. Chile, with the best record in Latin America, tied at 15th with three others.

Three former communist countries were at the bottom 10: Romania (114th), Russia (116th), and Ukraine (119th). All did worse than Communist China (101st).

Said Pulitzer-winning author Milton Friedman, one of the convenors of the annual EFW report: "Economic freedom promotes other civil and political freedoms. It is also a tonic against terrorism."

No plans to film Nida bio–producer

FILM producer Donna Villa and her director-husband Carlo J. Caparas were "shocked" by the reaction of Nida Blanca's daughter, Kaye Torres, over reports the couple was going to film the late actress' biography.

"Kaye used very strong words which hurt us," Villa said in a phone interview with the INQUIRER yesterday.

Villa said she and Caparas had given a spontaneous answer when they were asked if they would like to do a film on Blanca's life.

"How could we ask Kaye for permission when we don't even have definite plans of filming Nida's story?" Villa said.

"It was not our intention to hurt anyone," she added.

Torres had accused the couple of "capitalizing on the murder of my mom" and not even having "the decency to consult me."

Leah Salterio

DAR brings Net down to the farm

By Gerald G. Lacuarta

COMPUTERS and the Internet may still be beyond the reach of farmers, but Agrarian Reform Secretary Hernani Braganza believes these modern tools could help them fight for their lands.

The Department of Agrarian Reform has launched http://www.dar.gov.ph, a website containing an electronic library of information not easily accessed before. These include pertinent laws, rules and regulations on the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program.

Braganza said the website have leveled the playing field between landowners and farmer-beneficiaries. "All parties will now have access to legal data, which used to be available only to lawyers and diligent researchers from non-government organizations," he said.

With a few clicks of the mouse, farmers could browse through DAR issuances from 1973 to 2002, statutes, presidential issuances, Supreme Court decisions and issuances, Court of Appeals decisions and Department of Justice opinions on agrarian reform issues.

Launched during CARP's 14th anniversary celebration in Clark Field, Pampanga, the website was set up by technical experts from within and outside DAR.

Among its features are a reader-friendly primer on CARP, and forms that can be downloaded, including nine different application forms for land-use conversion.

"It is aimed at promoting transparency and good governance through the Internet," Braganza said. "This is in line with the national vision of wider access to information and faster and efficient delivery of government service."

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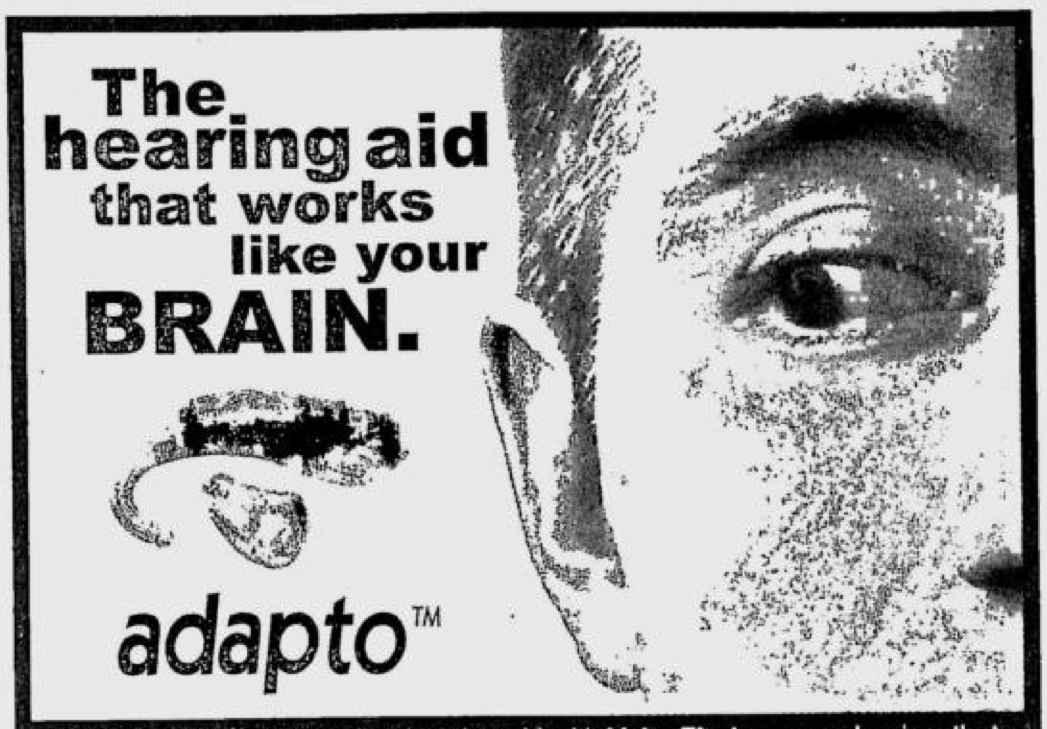
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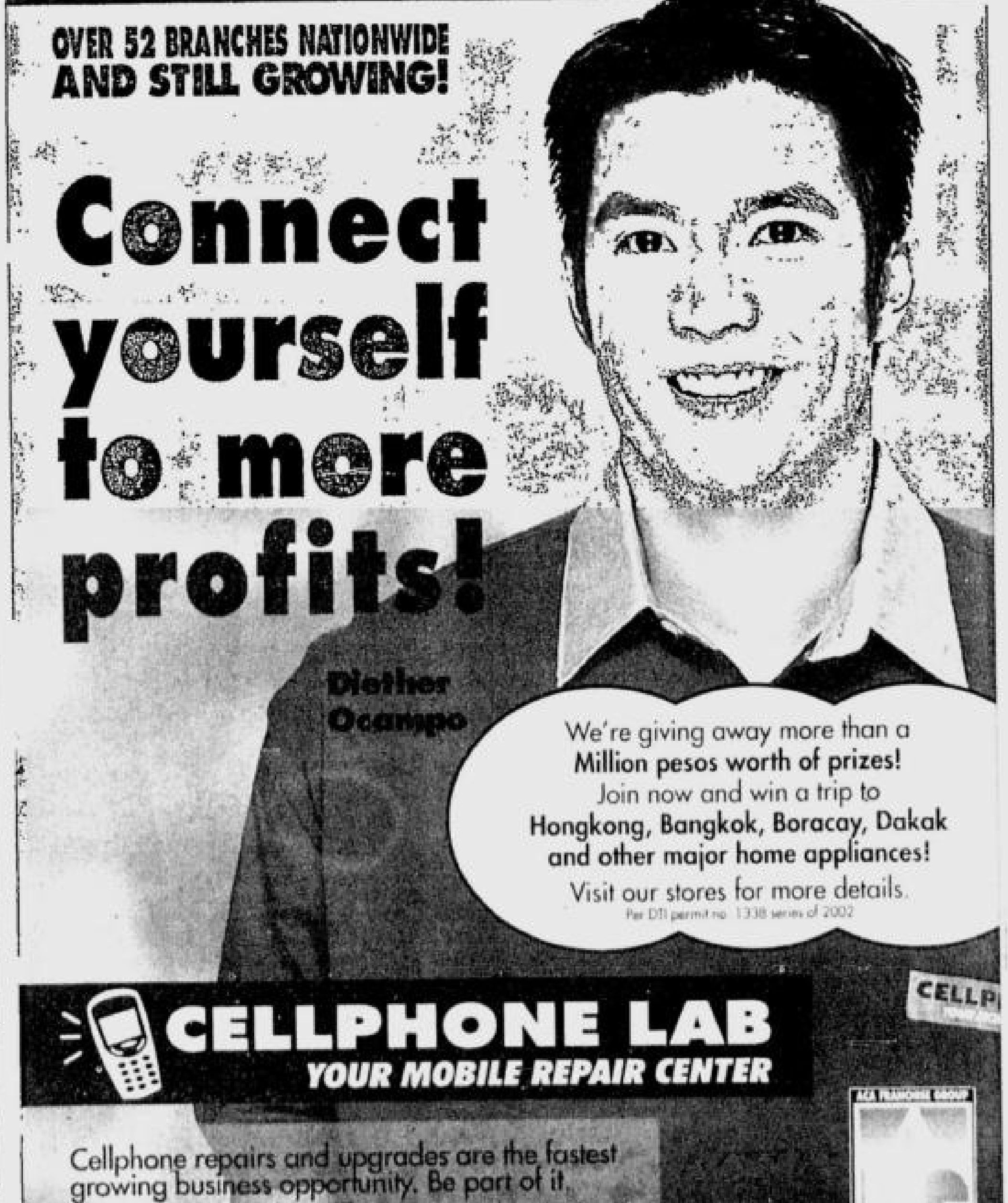
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Abus ambush Sulu police chief; 7 die in Army-MILF clash

ZAMBOANGA CITY—The police chief of Parang town in Sulu and two others were wounded when suspected Abu Sayyaf bandits ambushed them early yesterday, the military said.

Sulu Gov. Yusop Jikiri, who went to the site of the encounter on Barangay Panabuan, was also hurt but not from a gunshot, Gen. Romeo Tolentino, chief of the 104th Brigade, said.

Supt. Rugis Tingkahan, the Parang police chief, and his wife Hadja were on their way to Jolo when armed men believed to be members of the Abu Sayyaf group of Galib Andang, alias Commander Robot, ambushed them, Tolentino said.

Tingkahan, his wife and an unidentified woman were wounded.

According to Tolentino, when Jikiri was informed that some 40 bandits were allegedly out to ambush him, he went to Barangay Panabuan with his men.

This resulted in an hour-long encounter with the bandits in which two Moro National Liberation Front integrees, detailed as Jikiri's security, were wounded.

Tolentino said Jikiri was hurt because he stumbled during the firefight.

In Lanao del Sur, at least seven people were killed when soldiers clashed with Moro Islamic Liberation Front guerrillas in Poona Bayabao town.

In a separate incident in Basilan, a suspected military informer who worked against the Abu Sayyaf bandit group was seized from his home, tortured and killed, police said yesterday.

Military spokespersons said Army troops were on patrol on Friday in the remote town of Poona Bayabao in Lanao del Sur when they came under fire from 30 members of the MILF.

A gunbattle ensued in which seven of the rebels were killed. Ten firearms were recovered, Col. Danilo Servando said.

MILF spokesperson Eid Kabalu, however, claimed the military attacked an MILF camp, leaving eight dead MILF fighters and civilians and four slain soldiers. ***AFP and Julie S. Alipala, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

Message

I convey my warmest greetings to the Philippine Psychiatric Association, Inc. as you hold your **18th Postgraduate Course and 14th Midyear Convention.**

While advancements in the health sciences have already had a profound impact on the quality of modern life, there remain numerous challenges that need to be addressed. Foremost among these concerns is how to translate these advancements into benefits more accessible to the greater number of our people.

Therefore, we welcome the holding of this auspicious gathering as a positive step towards improving the delivery of health services in the country. Your theme, *"The Evolving Filipino Psychiatrist; Addressing Current Issues."* can strongly indicate your commitment to broaden your participation and put yourselves at the forefront of our concerted effort to improve the lives of our people.

I wish you a fruitful convention and more power as you perform your role as guardians of our society's health. Mabuhay!

GMArroyo
GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO
President - Republic of the Philippines

Warm greetings to the Philippine Psychiatric Association, Inc. (PPA) on the occasion of its 18th Postgraduate Course and 14th Midyear Convention.

The impact of mental disorders manifests not only in terms of the economic cost of care and treatment of such conditions. Handling the sociocultural dimension of mental disorders is as much a challenge as controlling the illness through interventions.

As we push for a more holistic approach in the care of our people's health, we would like to put greater emphasis on the prevention and treatment of mental disorders as they affect the over-all productivity of an individual in particular and that of the country in general.

We therefore appreciate PPA's conducting conventions such as this that promotes greater awareness on the proper approach to mental health in our country. Your commitment to advance the cause of adequately and appropriately addressing the mental health needs of our people is truly noteworthy.

Being a professional organization involved in ensuring the quality of mental health services in the country, the PPA is encouraged to lead the way in developing a national network of support systems and mechanisms that will allow our people to lead healthy and productive lives despite the many onslaughts which threaten to enfeeble our mental well-being.

Together, let us work towards a meaningful collaboration to protect the mental health of our fellow Filipinos as we aim to improve their access to quality yet affordable healthcare.

Mabuhay kayong lahat!

MANUEL M. DAYRIT, MD, MSc.
Secretary of Health

With genuine sentiments of fellowship, and on behalf of the Officers and Board of Governors of the Philippine Medical Association, we heartily greet the officers and members of the Philippine Psychiatric Association, Inc., on the occasion of its 18th Postgraduate Course and its 14th Midyear Convention.

It is very gratifying that you as specialists of mind and body have not been remiss in your efforts to cope with the impact of the fast changing times as you strive for a fuller understanding of the human person. Furthermore, you have proven yourselves equal to the challenges of contemporary practice, alongside rapid industrialization and technological advances. It is very significant to note that you have not allowed yourselves to stagnate, vis-a-vis with intellectual pursuits. This year's theme, "The Evolving Filipino Psychiatrist: Addressing Current Issues," aptly underscores your multifarious roles as you continue to immerse yourselves in research, training, service and advocacy. We join you in looking forward to a most productive and meaningful postgraduate course and midyear convention.

Thank you for keeping in step with us by helping bring doctors to the vanguard of health threats, thus giving substance to the PMA theme, "Doctors at the Forefront — A Challenge for Change:

Congratulations. Mabuhay ang Philippine Psychiatric Association, Inc.

GIL C. FERNANDEZ, M.D.
President - Philippine Medical Association

Dear Fellow Filipino Psychiatrists and Friends,

Mabuhay!

The Philippine Psychiatric Association's 18th Post - Graduate Course and the 14th Mid-Year Convention with the general theme, "The Evolving Filipino Psychiatrist: Addressing Current Issues" encompass current clinical issues which the Filipino psychiatrist generally encounters everyday like management of schizophrenia and comorbid medical illnesses, effects of pyschopharmacologic agents on sleep architecture, the borderline patient and supervision of psychodynamic therapy. The convention also dedicates topics to current issues in training, advocacy, research and the psychosocial issues of the Mindanao conflict and the Balikatan Exercises. The topics were envisioned to equip the Filipino psychiatrist the knowledge, tools and resources so he could provide the best care for the Filipino psychiatrist patient.

With this in mind, I do hope you can join the PPA and get involved...share and learn as a Filipino psychiatrist at the Edsa Shangri-la Hotel on July 24 - 26, 2002."

Maraming Salamat !

DINO S.C. PEÑA, MD. FPPA
President - Philippine Psychiatric Association, 2002 - 2003

18th Post-Graduate Course and 14th Mid-Year Convention

PHILIPPINE PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

"The Evolving Filipino Psychiatrist: Addressing Current Issues"

July 24 - 26, 2002 ● Edsa Shangri-La Hotel

It is with honor that I invite you, dear members and friends, to attend the Philippine Psychiatric Association's 18th Post - Graduate Course and 14th Mid - Year Convention this 24 to 26 of July at the Edsa Shangri-la Hotel.

This year's affair aims to tackle issues, topics and challenges facing the Filipino psychiatrists of today. It is hoped that through this convention such will be addressed and at the same time, foster camaraderie and fellowship among members and friends of the PPA.

JOCELYN NIEVA YATCO-BAUTISTA, MD, FPPA, FCAPPI
Vice President
Over-all Chairperson, Organizing Committee
Philippine Psychiatric Association, 2002 - 2003

24 JULY 2002 (WEDNESDAY)
3:00 PM Opening of Registration
5:00 PM **Opening Ceremonies**
(Isla Ballrooms II and III)
Master of Ceremonies Roberto B. Capistrano, MD, FPPA
Invocation Imelda Morales-martin, MD, FPPA, MHSC
National Anthem Rommel A. Montes, MD
PPA Hymn Rommel A. Montes, MD
Welcome Address Jocelyn Nieva Yatco-Bautista, MD, FPPA, FCAPPI
Introduction of Keynote Speaker Dino S.C. Peña, MD, FPPA
Keynote Address Ma. Margarita M. Galon, MD, MHA, CESO I
Undersecretary of Health,
Health Regulation Cluster, Department of Health
Awarding of Plaque of Appreciation
6:00 PM **Experience the Melody: New Clinical Data on Ziprasidone**
(Pfizer Dinner Symposium)

25 JULY 2002 (THURSDAY)
7:00 AM Registration
8:30 AM Opening of Booth Exhibits
Ribbon Cutting: Ma. Digna Medenilla-Peña, MD
CURRENT CLINICAL ISSUES
(Isla Ballrooms II and III)
9:30 AM **Management of Schizophrenia and Co-Morbid Medical Illness**
Speaker: Ma. Luz Casimiro-Querubin, MD, FPPA
10:30 AM BREAK
10:45 AM **Effects of Psychopharmacologic Agents on Sleep Architecture**
Speaker: Bernardo L. Conde, MD, FPPA, FPNA
11:45 AM **Antipsychotic Pharmacotherapy and the Hippocratic Oath: "Above All, Do No Harm"**
Speakers: Dino S.C. Peña, MD, FPPA
Edgardo Juan L. Tolentino, Jr., MD, FPPA
(Astra Zeneca Lunch Symposium)
2:00 PM **Business Meeting** - Philippine Board of Psychiatry for Fellows and Diplomates
(Palawan Room)
3:30 PM BREAK
PARALLEL SESSIONS
3:45 PM

CURRENT ISSUES IN TRAINING (Palawan Room)	**CURRENT ISSUES IN ADVOCACY** (Boracay Room)
Career Options	**The DOH National Mental Health Program**
Speakers:	Speakers/Facilitators:
Bernardino A. Vicente MD, FPPA	Ivanhoe C. Escartin, MD, FPPA
Benita Sta. Ana-Ponio, MD, FPPA	Edgardo Juan L. Tolentino, Jr., MD, FPPA
Romeo Y. Enriquez, MD, FPPA, FPNA	Anselmo T. Tronco, MD, FPPA
Robert D. Buenaventura, MD, FPPA	Marielle Malic-Cruz, MD, FCAPPI

6:00 PM **The Treatment Strategies for the Relapsed Patient**
Speaker: Winston W. Shen, MD
(Eli-Lilly Dinner Symposium; Isla Ballrooms II and III)
8:30 PM **Fellowship Night**

26 JULY 2002 (FRIDAY)
7:30 AM Registration
8:30 AM Tour of Booth Exhibits
CURRENT CLINICAL ISSUES
(Isla Ballrooms II and III)
9:30 AM **The Borderline Patient: Revisited**
Speaker: Eduardo L. Junila, MD, FPPA, FPNA
10:30 AM BREAK
10:45 AM **Supervision of Dynamic Psychotherapy**
Speaker: Baltazar V. Reyes, MD, FPPA
Reactor: Gabino V. Rafloa, Jr., MD, FPPA
12:00 NN **ADHD: An Under-Recognized Condition Among Filipino Children**
Clinical Diagnosis & Treatment of ADHD
Speaker: Cornelio G Banaag, Jr., MD, FPPA, FCAPPI
Neurobiology of ADHD
Speaker: Marilyn H. Ortiz, MD, FPNA
(Janssen Lunch Symposium)
2:00 PM **Business Meeting** - Philippine Psychiatric Association, Inc. for Fellows Diplomates, Regular and Junior Members
(Palawan Room)
3:00 PM BREAK
PARALLEL SESSIONS
3:15 PM

CURRENT PSYCHOSOCIAL ISSUES (Boracay Room)	**CURRENT ISSUES IN RESEARCH** (Lubang Room)
The Mindanao Conflict and the Balikatan Exercises	**Basic Research Course for Psychiatrist - Critiquing Medical Literature**
Speakers:	Speakers:
Mary Antoinette Morales-Reinoso, MD, DPBP, FCAPPI	Maria Lurenda H. Suplido, MD, MMed
Mary Madelaine Barranco-Famy, MD, FPPA	Miriam N. Agno, MD, MSc
Ma. Mercedes E. Mendoza, MD	
Denfred P. Balloza, MD	

6:30 PM **Abbott Dinner Symposium**
(Isla Ballrooms II and III)
8:30 PM Closing Ceremonies

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Augustinian priest charged with sex abuse

By Lino Gilbert K. Parone Jr.
PDI Visayas Bureau

CEBU CITY—A sex scandal is rocking one of the country's oldest churches, the Basilica Minore del Sto. Niño in this city.

A 21-year-old former altar boy has claimed that he and three others were sexually abused by a former rector of the basilica, Augustinian priest Apolinario "Jing" Mejorada, between 1998 and 1999.

In a letter to Cebu Archbishop Ricardo Cardinal Vidal on July 17, Dong (not his real name) said he would go public if the Church decides to look the other way and "allow pedophile priests like Mejorada to continue to harm young people."

Dong said they wanted Mejorada and the Augustinian Order to apologize formally to the three boys.

He also wanted Mejorada, 56, removed from all pastoral duties involving contact with children until he was fully rehabilitated.

The Cardinal was out of town and could not be reached yesterday.

"The boy should have waited for the Cardinal to call him and talk about the problem in private. That is how the Cardinal can be effective in this sense," said Msgr. Achilles Dakay, the archdiocesan media liaison officer, who added Vidal could not do anything now that the issue had been publicized.

An insider at the archbishop's palace said Vidal had referred Dong's letter to Fr. Richard Pido, OSA, the Augustinian's Prior Provincial. The INQUIRER tried to reach Pido but his employees said he was out of town.

Mejorada could not be reached for comment also. He was reportedly in Batangas, undergoing psychiatric treatment.

Dong's father said the history of sexual abuse was narrated at length in a deposition, which is now with their lawyer.

In his letter to the archbishop, Dong said the Augustinian Order "conspired to hide Fr. Mejorada and generally discouraged our group from frequenting the basilica."

Fr. Ambrosio Galindez OSA, another Augustinian serving at the basilica, said Mejorada had admitted committing the wrongful acts and that he had apologized to the three boys.

A settlement had been arranged in October 2000 and Mejorada gave P120,000 to each of the three boys, Galindez claimed.

It was also agreed that Mejorada would be taken out of Cebu and sent to Africa as a "punishment."

Dong said he felt betrayed when he saw Mejorada at the Pilgrim Center in Cebu on May 25. He also learned that instead of being sent to Africa, Mejorada was sent home to Bohol. The priest was also reportedly seen in Bacolod City and even in Carcar town in Cebu.

Dakay also admitted seeing the priest in Cebu early this year.

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Sunday, July 21, 2002
16th Week in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Wis 12:13, 16-19

There is no other god besides you, one who cares for everyone, who could ask you to justify your judgments; there is no other king or sovereign who could confront you and support those you punish.

Your strength is the source of your justice and because you are the Lord of all, you can be merciful to everyone.

To those who doubt your sovereign power you show your strength and you confound the insolence of those who ignore it. But you, the Lord of strength, judge with prudence and govern us with great patience, because you are able to do anything at the time you want.

In this way you have taught your people that a righteous person must love his human fellows; you have also given your people cause for hope by prompting them to repent of their sin.

2nd Reading: Rom 8:26-27

Brothers and sisters, we are weak, but the Spirit comes to help us. How to ask? And what shall we ask for? We do not know, but the spirit intercedes for us without words, as if with groans. And He who sees inner secrets knows the desires of the Spirit, for he asks for the holy ones what is pleasing to God.

Gospel: Mt 13:24-43

Jesus told the crowds another parable, "The kingdom of heaven can be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everyone was asleep, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and left.

When the plants sprouted and produced grain, the weeds also appeared. Then the servants of the owner came to him and said: 'Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? Where did the weeds come from?'

He answered them: 'This is the work of an enemy.' They asked him: 'Do you want us to go and pull up the weeds?' He told them: 'No, when you pull up the weeds, you might uproot the wheat with them. Let them just grow together until harvest; and at harvest time I will say to the workers: Pull up the weeds first, tie them in bundles and burn them; then gather the wheat into my barn.'"

Jesus put another parable before them, "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, that a man took and sowed in his field. It is smaller than all other seeds, but once it has fully grown, it is bigger than any garden plant; like a tree, the birds come and rest in its branches."

He told them another parable, "The kingdom of heaven is like the yeast which a woman took and buried in three measures of flour until the whole mass of dough began to rise."

Jesus taught all this to the crowds by means of parables; he did not say anything to them without using a parable. So what the Prophet had said was fulfilled: *I will speak in parables. I will proclaim things kept secret since the beginning of the world.*

Then he sent the crowds away and went into the house. And his disciples came to him saying, "plain to us the parable of the weeds in the field." Jesus answered them, "He one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world; the good seed are the people of the Kingdom; the weeds are those who follow the evil one. The enemy who sows them is the devil; the harvest is the end of time and the workers are the angels.

Just as the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so will it be at the end of time. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom all that is scandalous and all who do evil. And these will be thrown in the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the just will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. If you have ears, then hear."

Commentary

Sometimes we lack the patience to bear the misgivings and imperfections of others. We then wish for a perfect world with only good and just people in it, where everyone and everything will live in peace and harmony with God.

At times, we are even tempted to pray and ask God to punish and destroy all the evildoers, that this world may be a world of justice. But God's ways are not our ways.

If we were God, then we could have annihilated the world a long, long time ago. Thanks to God's love and patience, the world still exists. God gives time for people to realize the truth, that they may change and repent and walk on the right path.

Who knows? God could be waiting for you to realize this.

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EDITORIALS

Trading players

SEN. Robert Jaworski is no stranger to players changing teams in mid-season. As his generation's preeminent basketball player, he has displayed remarkable loyalty to his chosen colors. But player trades are a feature of the professional basketball league, and as playing coach of one of the most popular teams in the country he was responsible for a few trades himself.

This weekend, however, Jaworski finds himself at the center of the most crucial player trade he has ever been a part of—and it has nothing to do with the country's favorite pastime. Last Friday, a Malacañang source told the INQUIRER that the opposition senator was "going to be voting with the administration party" when the second regular session of the 12th Congress opens tomorrow.

The report, if true, does not come as a surprise. There are family reasons. Jaworski's father-in-law, Sen. Ramon Revilla, has been with the administration since a year ago, when the former actor decided to cast his lot with Sen. Franklin Drilon. Jaworski's influential in-laws, former Rep. Jose Cojuangco and former Tarlac Gov. Margarita Cojuangco, have also made peace with the administration. They are now busy repairing the Kabalikat ng Masang Pilipino, the electoral vehicle Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo had once taken out for a spin. In a country where politics is often an extension of family relations, Jaworski's decision to mend political fences with his own family members will be seen as nature simply taking its course.

There are also reasons of ideology—or the lack of it. Jaworski is on the opposition side of the fence largely because he voted out of a sense of loyalty during the impeachment trial of President Joseph Estrada. His visit to Edsa II, where he was greeted by indignant citizens outraged over his vote to keep the second Jose Velarde envelope sealed, was probably the worst public appearance he had ever made. But the aborted attempt does provide clear proof that Jaworski is nothing if not non-ideological. Since the party lines in the 12th Congress were drawn a year ago, Jaworski has kept the same stance, speaking and voting according to the company he is with rather than the policy at hand.

But, as in player trades in the Philippine Basketball Association, are there financial reasons as well? Jaworski has long been reported to be in financial straits because of business reversals, and the Government Service Insurance System is alleged to be one of his major creditors. Is there a financing arrangement at the heart of the switch?

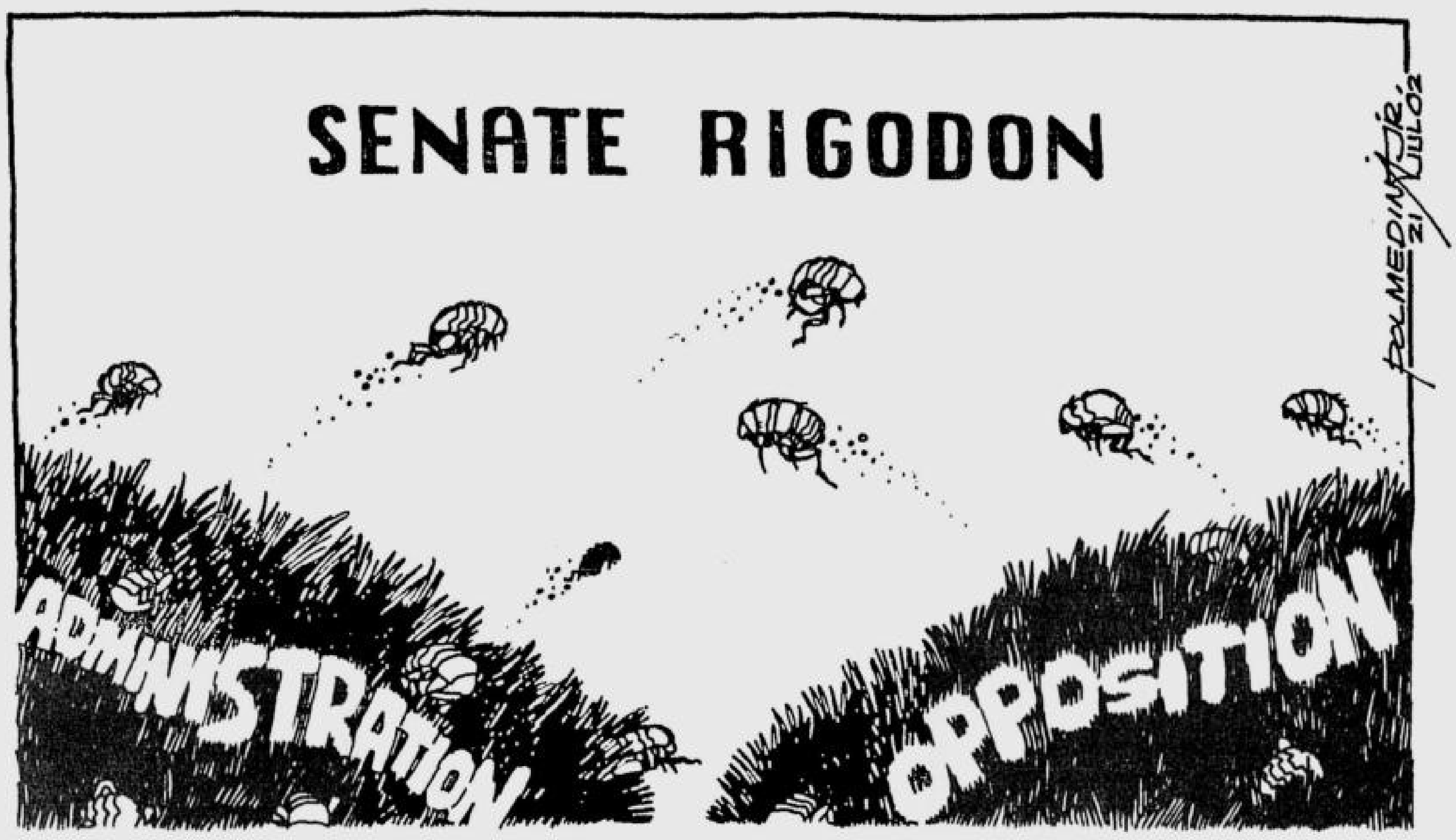
These questions may be nettlesome, but Jaworski has no other choice but to confront them head on. We are not talking of a mere blanket denial, which is one of the cheapest coins in the political realm. We are talking of real transparency in his dealings with the administration. If he is ready to move to the other side, Jaworski simply must put these questions to rest. Otherwise, his post-July 22 political career will make his ill-advised visit to the Edsa Shrine in January 2001 look like a picnic.

Switching channels

APPARENTLY, Senator Jaworski's won't be the only cross-over vote when Congress resumes session this week. The same Palace source said Sen. Vicente Sotto III is also preparing to jump ship.

Sotto is no stranger to changing sides. As one-third of the country's leading comedy act, he has moved from network to network, in pursuit of the fickle gods of television ratings. Last Friday, Sotto confirmed that he had accepted Malacañang's invitation to serve as "overseer" of the Presidential Drug Enforcement Agency, the new "super body" created by the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002. "I was invited and I accepted," Sotto said. "The PDEA was my brainchild as I was the principal author of the law." He said he is not leaving the Senate, but can leaving the Senate opposition be far behind?

There are many reasons why Sotto, who also voted to keep the second Velarde enveloped unopened, will find moving to the administration a congenial arrangement. For one thing, he may not be able to run for senator again in 2004, but who is to say he cannot run for vice president? It's a bigger audience.



A vacuum of leadership

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

THE TROUBLE with our present government is the lack of responsible leadership. It was different decades ago when we had in fact a surfeit of that virtue.

The American colonial administration recognized the statesmanship of such Filipino stalwarts as Quezon, Osmeña, and Sumulong. After the Pacific war, Laurel, Roxas, Recto, Rodriguez and others kept our democracy alive. Our Republic was later graced by the likes of Magsaysay, Garcia, Tañada, and Diokno among many others. Aquino was slain because he would not surrender defiance to dishonor. Marcos could have been in our firmament of patriots had he not opted for greed rather than greatness.

This is not to say that our past leaders were paragons of political perfection. They were not, nor did they pretend to be. Many of them had extra-marital relations like Joseph Estrada although not as scandalously as his harem. Vote-buying and private armies maintained a number of them in elective office. Presumptuous candidates won elective positions that later exposed their gross incompetence. And there was also graft and corruption albeit not in the present astronomical dimensions.

Fortunately, the bad apples did not contaminate the rest in the basket. The bulk of Philippine officialdom continued to regard public office as a public trust even before that cliché was incorporated in the Constitution. Many of our past political leaders honored their positions with the strong and sincere resolve to truly serve the people. They did this honestly, to the best of their abilities, and with full fidelity to the paramount public interest under the rule of law.

Regrettably, those exemplary public servants have not motivated their present successors. Where their principles and courage could have inspired the current leadership, their altruism is now derided as impractical and even foolish. Politicians today place more value on pragmatism and its obvious and not-so-secret rewards. Selflessness only takes second place, if at all. This attitude cannot be more apparent than in the present condition of the country as emasculated by its immature and irresponsible leaders.

Many who rejoiced over Erap's ouster are back in the slough of despond. We are again in square one with little hope for our increasingly bleak future. The children are especially threatened because they are especially defenseless. There is no assurance from our present crop of public officials that this land of the morning will ever see the dawn Rizal envisioned. Malacañang, Congress and even the Supreme Court are steadily losing the people's confidence.

One if not the principal cause of the growing distrust in the government is President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo herself. Many saw her as the redeemer from the shambles of the past misrule, but that illusion lasted only for a fleeting moment. That is the lifespan of many of her *urong-sulong* pronouncements that have confused and disenchanted many of her earlier supporters.

Easily the most questionable of her current brainstorms is her announced amiability toward some suspect figures from the Erap years. The remnants of that shameful period are thrilled by the projected appointment of Sen. Blas Ople as the premier member of her Cabinet. Ople was a pillar of the Marcos tyranny and a steadfast defender of the disgraced Estrada. The new President is also welcoming the Puno brothers and Jim Policarpio, earlier rejected as Erap's courtiers, to be her own advisers—on what?

Although she denies it, the offer of the Cabinet post to Ople is intended to defuse the conflict in the Senate. I like to think that its supposed reorganization was triggered by the effort of the opposition senators to prevent the release of the adverse findings of three Senate committees against Sen. Panfilo Lacson for drug trafficking. I had nagged the Senate in this column about that matter until its disclosure could no longer be delayed. The so-called "new majority" has rejected the report and ordered a new investigation, which will likely be a whitewash.

As unacceptable as La Gloria may be, the opposition under Sen. Edgardo Angara is no less dismissible. His minor talents mock his major ambitions. The two are in fact political clones as unabashed opportunists. Worse, some of their respective companions in the political hierarchy are not even intellectually qualified; they are there because of the *bakya* crowd, the most malignant bane of Philippine politics.

It is said that in times of crisis, someone emerges to displace the weak leadership and rescue the nation from disaster. During the Great Depression in the United States, Franklin D. Roosevelt became president and brought America back on its feet. Charles de Gaulle rebounded from obscure retirement to restore the pride if not the grandeur of France. Winston Churchill rose from the backbenches of Parliament and made England survive and prevail.

Let us pray that from our present confusion and helplessness there will arise a benevolent and dynamic leader who will point to us the way to better days. I do not believe there is "no credible alternative" among all of us 80 million Filipinos, who cannot be that doomed or beyond salvation.

Patience, perseverance, prayers

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

HAVE you heard about this guy who had instant solutions to difficult problems? His cows would not eat brown grass during a long drought. What did he do? He put green sunglasses on his cows and they started eating again. Problem solved! He always forgot his driving eyeglasses. What did he do? He had the whole windshield graded. Problem solved! In both cases, the problems were solved, but this led to other problems because the cows would not drink green water, and anyone who rode in the guy's car got dizzy!

* * *

The Gospel today (Mt. 13,24-43) about the parable of the weeds and the wheat reminds us that there are no instant and simple solutions in this world. There will be divine justice in the end when the evildoers will be punished and the righteous will be rewarded, but in the meantime, the good and the bad will be allowed to grow together. Jesus teaches us to be patient in our quest for the good, and He assures us that the goodness that we do, no matter how small or insignificant, will, like the mustard seed, become a large bush someday.

* * *

There are no shortcuts in our work for goodness and justice. You don't just kill criminals to get rid of evil in this world just as you don't douse gasoline and set aflame your dog to get rid of its fleas. Likewise you don't kill all drug pushers and drug dependents to solve the drug problem in our country. Shortcuts often cut us short, so patience, patience. No matter how long it takes, we should stay on the road of goodness and justice, confident that with God's help it will take us to our final destination.

* * *

I was in Camp Crame last Thursday for the testimonial dinner of PNP Director General Hermogenes Ebdane hosted by his fellow Philippine Military Academy cavaliers. I challenged them to put God in the PNP and reminded them to adhere to the spirit of the PMA once again. In that room filled with PMA alumni, there was no way of telling or separating the weeds from the wheat.

We believe in new beginnings. Let us pray for General Ebdane in his difficult task of weeding out from the PNP the undesirables without pulling out the desirables. All we need are a few good men and women to make a difference. As one text message put it: "In this life we do not need a certain number of friends, we only need friends who are certain."

* * *

Mama was sick with the flu this week. I made it a point to be with her, check her medicines, have the helpers cook *arrozcaldo* and hot soup for her, and call every now and then to check her condition. I would lay my hands and pray over her for her healing. It was so easy, so natural for me to do this. Why? Because that's what she always did to us when we were young and even now when we, her children, are sick. What I am saying is that the goodness that you sow comes back to you. Yes, you reap what you sow.

* * *

For those who are undergoing difficult times and want to give up, learn again how a precious pearl is formed. In the life of a clam, a grain of sand comes in and causes much pain and irritation. But instead of breaking up or giving up, the clam continues to envelope that grain of sand with so much patience and perseverance, until after some time the very same irritating painful grain of sand has become a precious, precious pearl!

Do you have problems or irritants in your life right now? Remember that they are potential pearls!

* * *

Patience, perseverance and prayers are what we need in life. Some weeks ago, I was talking with a friend whose marriage was on the rocks. They had finally hit rock bottom and were about to separate. She persisted in her prayers. Just as she was ready to give up, her husband admitted his faults, asked for forgiveness, and said: "For so long, we have focused on so many things. From now on, Mommy, the focus of our marriage will be the salvation of our souls."

Yes, goodness is never gone. Grace really works. Husbands and wives, is the salvation of your souls the focus in your marriage, in your family?

* * *

Msgr. Peter Tsao, SVD was a sower who sowed good seed, especially among the Chinese community in the Philippines as a parish priest of St. Jude, and as a director of St. Jude Catholic School for many years. He was one of those who left China after the communists took over, and was ordained priest in the Philippines in 1950. This generous, dedicated, prayerful and smiling missionary priest touched the hearts and lives of so many people. He was a disciplinarian and a builder, but most of all, he was a father who never failed to say a good word and encourage others. He had 82 years of life which was so full, so beautiful and so meaningful. He will be laid to rest at Christ the King Seminary on Monday, July 22, after the 3 p.m. Mass.

* * *

I will be in Tacloban on the 26th for a 6 p.m. healing Mass, in Palo, Leyte on the 27th, and in Barugo, Leyte on the 28th, continuing our mission to sow the seed for the Lord and for His kingdom.

* * *

A moment with the Lord:

Lord, may I never forget to be patient, to be prayerful and to be persevering as I go on with my life. Amen.

Are US sanctions vs China effective?

NEWS ANALYSIS

Carol Giacomo

'Sanctions appear to be more of an irritant to China than a credible obstacle'

WASHINGTON—The Bush administration's decision to again slap sanctions on Chinese companies accused of arms or technology sales to Iran is sparking new calls for a different, possibly tougher, US approach.

In the past, such penalties have failed to persuade Beijing to crack down hard enough on what Washington considers dangerous technology transfers and some are questioning whether the latest round of sanctions will be any more effective.

The new sanctions—the fifth set imposed by the United States in 19 months—were authorized under the Iran-Iraq Arms Proliferation Act of 1992 and the Chemical and the 1991 Biological Weapons Control and Warfare Elimination Act. They involved three cases of advanced conventional arms and chemical and biological weapons components transfers to Iran between September 2000 and October 2001. Previous sanctions involved sales to Iran and Pakistan.

President George W. Bush considers Iran part of an "axis of evil" with Iraq and North Korea. He has warned they could provide extremists with nuclear, chemical and biological arms and missiles, a heightened fear since the Sept. 11 attacks.

Under President Bill Clinton, sanctions on China were often waived on national security grounds as his aides negotiated with Beijing on nonproliferation. The Bush administration, saying Beijing has failed to fully meet its commitments, has insisted on invoking, rather than waiving, sanctions.

One US official told Reuters the Bush approach has had some effect. "There has been some change in China's behavior," he said. "We know there are some transactions and activities that have stopped between August 2001 and this spring." Beijing has argued that its system is so decentralized that the government often does not know about or cannot control arms sales, but the US official said the transfers halted over the past year were stopped because "Beijing acted." He acknowledged, however, that China has still not done enough "and there are still serious transfers going on."

Another US official told Reuters: "It's a myth that these sanctions laws are effective. Plainly they are not. They have been imposed year after year against one after another firm and in the end they have negligible or zero impact upon the Chinese except in the realm of symbolism."

The Bush approach has not satisfied Frank Gaffney, a Republican national security expert and ex-Pentagon official. He described US policy toward China as "more or less a continuation of the Clinton policy, which is to either ignore or behave as though (what China is doing) is not making an appreciable difference."

He said the Bush team's "most troublesome error is that they are maintaining this conceit that the problem arises from individual companies and not high government policy." Because US sanctions have been targeted at specific companies or individuals "there seems to be no real cost applied to the communist Chinese government."

That view was underscored by the US-China Security Review Commission, a congressional panel which last week issued a year-long security study of Sino-American relations. Since the sanctioned Chinese companies are not engaged with the US government, "sanctions can have little or no deterrent effect on them," the commission concluded. "Sanctions appear to be more of an irritant to China than a credible obstacle."

The commission wants tougher penalties imposed directly on the Chinese government to force Beijing to act, including limiting China's access to US capital markets and prohibiting transfer of certain science and technology resources. It argues that a key drive in China's relations with "terrorist-sponsoring governments" is its dependence on foreign fuel oil for its economic development.

But a senior US official rejected that motivation.

Since Sept. 11 China has cooperated more with Washington in backing revised UN sanctions on Iraq. And while Chinese firms may sometimes deal with Baghdad, Beijing has moved to halt such deals when Washington has raised the issue, the official said. *Reuters*

What I've learned from soaps

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

IN FAIRNESS, my fascination for soaps began as part of professional "research" (naks!). I was asked to speak at a consultation in preparation for a planned "Soap Opera Summit" last year, and I realized that even as I extolled the public education and values formation potential of the medium, I wasn't all that familiar with TV soaps.

So I resolved to watch them as often as I could, and it didn't take long before I got "hooked" on them. It's futile, I'll admit, to apply the rules of logic on soaps. It's the suspension of disbelief, in fact, that makes a soap opera such an addictive commodity. For half an hour, every day, you can lose yourself in a world where people's emotions are constantly on display and over the top, and where coincidence rules. One soap, however, lost me completely when one character, who was the "lola" of the male lead when I first followed it, ended up as the female lead's "lola" a few weeks later!

In other parts of the world, the soap opera has been used successfully to "sell" such socially useful ideas as family planning, environmental consciousness, HIV-AIDS awareness, health care for children and gender justice. Local soaps have yet to be tapped effectively for social reform, but that doesn't mean they have nothing to teach us. Here's a list of the things I've learned from soaps:

* * *

A SLAP IS THE PROPER WAY TO END A CONVERSATION. In the world of soaps, people don't punctuate their sentences with periods, they snort, sniff, raise their eyebrows, toss their hair and when they're done exchanging barbed words, they let their hands do the talking. Whack!

I once conducted an informal poll among family and friends asking them how often they'd been slapped in their lives. Most said never. And these were no spring chickens, mind. But on "Sa Puso ko Iingatan Ka," poor Judy Ann Santos gets slapped at least once a day, and when Armida Singuion Reyna, as the *matapobre* lola, used to still hound her character Patricia, Juday would get slapped as often as five times a day.

ANYONE WHO CROSSES YOU DESERVES TO DIE. People die so often on soaps it's a wonder talents don't have life-span clauses in their contracts. All you have to do to die in a soap is to displease the arch-villain. Contravidas, from Madame Claudia to "Tito" Franco to Eddie Garcia's governor in "Kung Mawawala Ka" have no compunctions about ordering a hit even in front of innumerable witnesses. What, they never heard of the witness protection program?

But, YOU DON'T REALLY DIE. You can get blown up in a bus, be inside a car that falls down a cliff and bursts into flames, have the taxi you're riding on rammed by a truck, but if the audience clamors long and hard enough for your character, the soap writers will find a way to resurrect you. You may end up losing your memory, losing your face, or buying your way to another face, but you will still be around to give the audience their daily dose of *kilig* or *inis*, depending on your character.

Tita Midz once told me that she got so fed up with her "lola" character in a soap that she requested she be killed with finality. "I want you to show the audience that I really died, so you can't bring me back anymore," she demanded of the soap's producers. But lo and behold, and wouldn't you know, a few weeks later who would make an appearance as a "lola" but Tita Midz herself! But in another soap in another channel!

* * *

TWINS ARE MUCH MORE COMMON THAN YOU THINK. Identical twins are such a staple of local soaps the Philippines must be the look-alike capital of the world. I don't know why soap writers are so fond of using twins as main characters. Perhaps they think the confusion of look-alike leads makes for endless complications. Or perhaps the director wants to show off what he knows of blue-screen technology. And in "Sana Ikaw na Nga," the twins aren't even real twins. One character was so nefarious she ruined the female lead's face, then underwent plastic surgery to "put on" this borrowed visage.

One disadvantage of twin characters, however, is that the actor who essays the twin roles has to think up ways of distinguishing both her characters. A change of wigs and makeup won't do it. In one soap, the female lead has essentially a single facial expression, it's difficult telling what she's feeling, let alone what twin she's playing at the moment.

* * *

FATHERHOOD IS AN IFFY PROPOSITION. In "Kung Mawawala Ka," Eddie Garcia plays a politician with not one or two but three families. And one character, introduced as the politician's youngest daughter, turns out to be her sister's daughter, after all! In "Pangako sa 'Yo," the central dilemma is whether Amor Powers will ever find out that Ina is her real daughter, with the side intrigue that Ina and her true love, Angelo, might end up as siblings. Paternity and maternity are such confused situations in soaps, the families' family trees must resemble baobabs!

STILL, SOAP OPERAS RESEMBLE REAL LIFE. Never mind the astonishing leaps of logic and the amazing coincidences. A soap opera reflects, like a trick mirror, the realities of its society. Definitely, multiple families, paternity issues, the constant struggle for power and domination, and of course, the search for romance and good sex—all exist in our lives and end up as our own personal obsessions. The only difference is that soap characters have permission to act up, while our even bigger obsession is concealing these soap opera sentiments beneath a veneer of normality.

As a soap villain might declare: *"Mga hypokrita!"*

* * *

Comments to rjdavid@inquirer.com.ph

State of the nation's leadership

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

I DID not think it was serious until my own children began to talk about it as an idea whose time has come. Many years ago, at the peak of the Marcos years, we were presented with a chance to live abroad, but my family scoffed at the idea. The other day, one of my daughters asked if I would object if she started searching for better opportunities abroad. I was startled by her question and I began to reflect on the issue from the perspective of young people.

I am convinced that thousands of young and productive Filipinos are leaving the country to settle abroad not because they have lost all hope for the nation of their elders but only because they are fed up with the way the country is being run. They love the land and its people, but they are terribly demoralized by their leaders' repeated failure to put the country on the right course following the rebirth of democracy in 1986.

Few intend to reside permanently and die in foreign lands. They hope to come home someday. But for now, all they want is a chance at personal development, and a decent future for their children.

In the 100 years that we have been a nation, we have had good and bad leaders. Some of them had foresight and championed quixotic causes that were not easily understood during their time but were crucial to the country's long-term development. We hail them today as our heroes. But many others brought nothing to political life except personal ambition and were content to just take over the roles vacated by the foreign masters. We continue to suffer from their misrule.

Throughout all these years, Filipinos' expectations of what their leaders should be have not changed. They don't expect their leaders to be perfect, for indeed they often identify with their flaws and lapses, but they do wish them to be infinitely better than they are. A self-governing nation does not sprout overnight, and a hundred years is not a long time. In their hearts, most of our people still ask to be taken care of and to be given the opportunity to grow before they can fully take up their obligations as citizens. They are aware that their limited knowledge of the world has become even more inadequate in the complex times in which they live. They want to increase their learning so they can live autonomous and responsible lives.

I think these are justifiable expectations. Unfortunately, our leaders have exploited this dependence and have used it as a warrant to make feudal rule a permanent arrangement.

Leaders have a moral obligation to be mature and high-minded. While they are sprung from the same culture as the communities they lead, they cannot afford to indulge in the trivial and selfish pursuits of everyday life. Their focus must ever be the survival and growth of the community. Their special attention must be for the socially excluded and downtrodden. Filipino leaders know this rhetoric so well but their conduct is another matter.

Over the last so many years after the first Edsa, our national leaders have mostly behaved either like petty thugs with no sense of nation or clueless clowns lost in the folds of time. They don't inspire awe, only ridicule and despair. Watching them at work and listening to them talk, we are seldom rewarded with the feeling that the nation is in competent hands and that we need not worry for our children.

I refer to the entire political leadership of the country, not just the President. In the final analysis, it is not so much the number of executive orders or laws they pass that the public remembers, but the impression they leave on the nation's collective psyche. Nietzsche once remarked that people are engaged in a "constant falsification of the world by means of numbers." A Filipino leader's ultimate manifestation of her value is not through numbers but through character.

Maybe it would not be like this if we were a modern society. In such a society, leaders would be chosen mainly by instrumental rational means, and they would be periodically assessed by their concrete measurable achievements. But in traditional societies like ours, leaders are chosen differently and evaluated by other means. The accent is on trust rather than on performance. The question that is asked is not how much a leader knows and has done, but what kind of person he is.

This is not as irrational as it may seem, and politicians are wrong to draw the conclusion that therefore leadership is synonymous with impression management by public relations experts. Filipinos instinctively know the difference between image, which is studied, and "*loob*" which is intrinsic. You cannot fake *loob*. In the metaphysics of the Filipino, *loob* holistically emerges from a person's deeds, speech and appearance, notably during unguarded moments.

I have crudely translated *loob* as character, but it is really much more than consistency in thought and deed. It also encompasses generosity, humility, compassion and wisdom—virtues that are highly prized in a society that has gone through so much pain. A leader with a good *loob* is rewarded with trust.

In some ways, emigration is a withdrawal of trust. On certain occasions our people have felt betrayed not just by one particular leader, but by an entire leadership. These are such times I think, when a citizen is presented with only two options: you either move to another country or you act to change the system in your own country.

* * *

Comments to rdavid@pacific.net.ph

'Memorice'

COMMENTARY

Albert M. Lagliva
Institute on Church and Social Issues

WHEN there is a scarcity of food, we rely on rice to make our stomachs full. *"Daanin na lang sa kanin,"* as the saying goes.

Perhaps life is getting harder these days. Adong, a friend of mine who comes from a farmer's family in Leyte, stopped going to a technical school in Cubao because he could not buy enough food to carry him through his class' workload. All he could afford to buy was two boiled bananas every day for lunch. He would have wanted rice for every meal, but most of the time he had to settle for what he called "memorice"—rice in memory.

For Adong and countless others, "memorice" will have to suffice for now. What matters now is that at least they have something to eat.

Rice has shaped the cultures, diets and economies of more than half of the world's population. Asia, which produces and consumes 90 percent of the world's total rice production, is so attached to this grain that it has become part of various festivals and the cultural heritage.

In the Philippines, as in many other Asian countries, rice has become the symbol of life. Different languages use words for rice when they are actually speaking of food in general. In Lucban, Quezon, people celebrate the harvest by paying homage to San Isidro Labrador, the patron saint of Filipino farmers. They fill their homes with colorful decorations called *pahiyas* (precious offerings) which are made from rice paste and kernels. Also part of our heritage is the Banaue rice terraces which are being rehabilitated after years of neglect.

Rice, being the most basic part of the Asian diet, is life. Food security in the region is synonymous with rice security. The production of rice is key to the development and survival of the region. But much has to be done if we do not want to face the grim scenario of having no rice on our tables. To cope with the increasing population, which is estimated to add some 1.2 billion new rice consumers in Asia by 2020, an additional 100 million tons of rice must be produced. By that year, our population will be way above the 100 million mark and we will need to to produce 40 to 50 percent more rice than what we have today to feed our people. But instead of increasing, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (UN-FAO) noted a 2.2 percent decline in the total rice production in the world for the year 2001.

For the two million rice farmers in this country, bigger government support and assistance are needed because our average rice yield is way below that of our Asian counterparts. Our productivity has been stunted because two-thirds of our agricultural lands still remain unirrigated and less than 20 percent of our total road network is paved, raising the cost of transporting agricultural produce. Add to this the continuous conversion of lands to industrial and other non-agricultural activities which undermines food security in general. Because of these problems, the price of rice is higher in the Philippines than those in the major rice producers like Vietnam, China and Thailand.

Although the volume of our rice production increased by 4.56 percent in 2001, we are still far from achieving rice sufficiency and we are still heavily dependent on rice imports to fill our requirements. Last year we imported more than 700,000 metric tons of rice from three countries.

Farmers are worried over the government's rice policies and proposed measures aiming to completely liberalize the importation of rice. To replace the quantitative restrictions, it is being proposed that high tariffs be imposed on rice importations. Advocates of this plan argue that it would be more economical for the country to import rice than to produce it locally because of our high production costs. After all, imported rice is cheaper by as much as 50 percent.

Because of its lower prices, it is argued, imported rice will benefit the ordinary consumers. But then the government seems helpless in curbing rice cartels and greedy rice traders who control prices and sell the imported commodity at prevailing market prices. Also if high tariffs are to be imposed on imported rice, its price will then rise to about the same level as the local produce, thus offering no more advantage to the consumers.

More importantly, such policies run counter to the government's poverty reduction and alleviation programs, since the influx of cheap rice imports will affect the livelihood of our poor local farmers. Also rice production, which accounts for 16 percent of the total agricultural output, will suffer a setback if importation becomes a priority. In the long run, undermining local rice production by favoring an import-based policy will threaten our capacity to be self-sufficient and endanger our food security.

Only 5 percent of the world's rice production is traded in the world market. This means that most countries produce rice for their own consumption and protect their own rice industries.

The Philippine government must likewise ensure the nation's capacity to feed itself. When the populations of rice-exporting nations begin to increase, they will have smaller rice surpluses. As a result, a developing country like ours with limited purchasing power will have difficulty buying rice in the world market.

Luckily, the strong opposition of the farmers led to the postponement of the government's plan to push through with bigger rice importation schemes. But the protection of the local rice sector must be pursued if we desire to achieve food security. Providing adequate safety nets that enhance our farmers' productivity is the way to reduce poverty. The government must recognize its responsibility to continue providing support to the farmers. After all, we all hope to eat rice every single day. "Memorice" just cannot satisfy a hungry stomach.

THEY SAID

Tools in politics

"Courting and counter-courting are tools in politics. Anybody who tells you courting is not happening is lying."
—*Sen. Rodolfo Biazon*

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TALK of the TOWN

Editor **Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.**

Does Gloria deserve a passing mark?

THE TIME has come for Filipinos to judge whether President Macapagal-Arroyo has kept the promises she made in her first State of the Nation Address (Sona) in July last year. Malacañang claims that the President has met her targets. It says that the President's targets for funding agriculture modernization, health insurance, rolling stores and land tenure for the urban poor have been exceeded and that achievements in traffic, garbage corruption and kidnapping are creditable.

Her supporters like the Makati Business Club and Caucus of Development NGO Networks have given her a passing mark. But the political opposition and militant groups paint a different picture. 'Talk of the Town' asked people in Luzon, the Visayas and Mindanao to rate the President. Most of the respondents give her a failing mark as their lives have not improved under her administration.

'Good enough, overall'

By the Caucus of Development NGO Networks (Code-NGO)

WHEN President Macapagal–Arroyo came into power she said that she did not aim to be a great President, only a good one. After 18 months in office, the debate has begun on whether the President has been "good enough," and indeed whether "good" is enough.

It must be emphasized that the administration inherited an economy and bureaucracy deeply damaged by the governance of her predecessor. And while the Filipino people are understandably impatient for results, 18 months is hardly enough time to solve the nation's deep-rooted problems.

Against this backdrop, the administration must be credited for steering the country toward one of the highest Gross Domestic Product growth rates in Asia for 2001. The country's GDP growth rate of 3.4 percent compares favorably with Hong Kong's 0 percent, Singapore's -2.2 percent, Indonesia's 3.3 percent and Thailand's 1.7 percent. The administration also gets high marks for bringing down the inflation rate from 6.1 percent in 2001 to 3.6 percent as of May 2002. The major area of concern, however, is unemployment, which grew from 11.1 percent in 2001 to 12.1 percent in 2002. In a situation of low inflation but increasing unemployment, it is difficult to determine whether the Filipino poor are better off.

Efficiency over equity

As far as agriculture is concerned, the administration must be credited for establishing poverty eradication and social equity as the overall framework of the development plan for the sector. However, the actual programs and targets in the Medium Term Philippine Development Plan (MTPDP) 2001–2004, the 2001 State of the Nation Address (Sona), and the Socio-Economic Pact (SEP), reflect a more "free market" orientation and a concern for efficiency first over equity.

In the MTPDP growth targets for specific crops for instance, high growth rates were projected for plantation crops like mango (3.5 to 5 percent) and pineapple (3.5 to 4.5 percent), while little growth was expected for *palay* (2 to 2.5 percent), corn (1 to 2 percent), and coconut (1 to 2 percent), where the majority of poor farmers are engaged.

In fisheries, a robust 6.3 percent growth was projected for capital-intensive aquaculture while—0.5 percent growth was projected for municipal fisheries where the subsistence fisherfolk make their livelihood. Contrary to the modest expectations however, *palay* production grew by 4.5 percent and municipal fisheries by 2.4 percent. Leading the way were the poultry sector (7.8 percent), aquaculture (10.3 percent), and mango (4.2 percent). Overall, the agriculture sector demonstrated its resilience, growing 4.1 percent, compared with a projected 3.1 percent.

The government's bias for efficiency over equity can also be seen in the Hybrid Seed Program and the policy proposal allowing farmers to import rice. Since hybrid seed production is more expensive, it is the landed farmers and not the subsistence farmers who will be able to participate in the program. The President's Sona pronouncement to allow the entry of cheap, imported rice was so vehemently opposed by peasant groups, that the idea was shelved until 2003. These two policies are conflicting because one seeks domestic rice self-sufficiency through a high yielding variety of rice while the other seeks rice sufficiency through imports.

With regard to the Sona commitment, government claims to have allocated P29.75 billion for the Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization Act (Afma) and generated 852,000 new jobs under the One Million Jobs program. Closer scrutiny reveals that the amount allocated for Afma is composed of regular budgets and funds of the Land Bank, Agrarian Reform Fund, and Department of Agriculture (DA). In effect, no new money over and above the regular agency budgets and funds were pumped into the agriculture sector.

No meaningful impact

Likewise, the One Million Jobs program appears to be a mere "recording" of the workforce tapped for regular government activities. Moreover, 90-day employment in a government project is considered one job created, thus thousands of jobs may have been "created" without any meaningful impact on unemployment and poverty.

It is in agrarian reform, however, that the administration has performed the worst. As of December 2001, the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) has distributed 104,261 hectares to farmers, about 99 percent of the MTPDP target of 105,318 ha. for the year. While 99 percent seems like a satisfactory accomplishment rate, the 104,261 ha. distributed last year was actually the lowest land acquisition and distribution accomplishment since 1998. In terms of distributing private agricultural lands—the core of the agrarian reform program—the administration's accomplishment of 65,941 hectares is the second lowest accomplishment since 1992.

One bright spot however, appears to be delivery of agrarian justice. For the period 2001 to March 2002, the DAR accomplishment report notes 89.3 percent of agrarian reform law implementation cases heard in regular courts have been resolved. Of the cases pending in the DAR Adjudication Board, more than half have been resolved. There is no data, however, to indicate whether these agrarian cases were resolved in favor of the farmers.

In the provision of housing, however, the government seems to be performing much better. The government should be commended for the significant decline in mass evictions and demolitions, and provision of security of tenure to urban poor settlers. In her Sona, the President promised security of tenure to 150,000 urban poor households but was able to assist 183,000 households.

This number includes 146,220 urban poor households that benefited from presidential land proclamations; 3,565 households awarded certificates of title reservation; 3,200 households awarded certificates of lot assignment; 1,567 households awarded certificates of lot entitlement; and 28,474 households that availed themselves of the Community Mortgage Program (CMP).

Urban poor

The government also surpassed its target of giving housing assistance to 50,000 urban poor households. As of June 30, a total of 83,457 households had been provided assistance through National Housing Authority projects such as sites and services, resettlement and slum upgrading. The government, however, failed to meet its target of giving housing assistance to 100,000 low-salaried workers as it was only able to reach 72,375.

Also noteworthy is the passage of Executive Order 45, which simplified the procedure for acquiring housing permits. Improvements have also taken place in the CMP, in terms of the number of loans taken out by urban poor families.

Financing is the biggest problem in the housing sector. The unwillingness of pension funds to increase their exposure to housing, and the inherent unsustainability of using them to bankroll housing, present serious problems to the government.

With regard to basic education, data for school year 2000-2001 indicate that virtually all six-year-olds are enrolled in Grade 1 on the first day of school, but less than half of them eventually complete high school. The country prides itself on a high simple literacy rate of 93.9 percent, but functional literacy (the ability to read, write and have facility in numeracy) is lower at 83.8 percent.

While education has the biggest share of the national budget among departments, two items need to be pointed out. First, less than 10 percent of the budget goes to teacher/staff development, procurement of instructional materials, and school innovation projects. Second, per student spending (adjusted for purchasing power parity) was only $138 compared with $1,582 for Singapore and $882 for Thailand.

The Department of Education has finally streamlined the curriculum, reducing the number of subject areas in basic education, and providing more focus on science and math. It is still too early to evaluate the impact of the changes in the curriculum. A National Coordinating Council for Education was also established to better coordinate basic education, middle education and tertiary education.

Liability

The issue of transparency and accountability has been a liability for the administration. The general perception is that corruption continues unabated, and no "big fish" has been successfully prosecuted. Moreover, scandals involving First Gentleman Mike Arroyo, and questions about some of the President's own political moves have caused civil society to question the government's transparency. It must be acknowledged however that reforms have been undertaken in government accounting, auditing, procurement and budgeting, which will lead to more transparent, efficient and effective government operations.

As to the question whether the President has been "good enough," it may be said that given the enormous challenges the nation faces and the limited time in which she has been in office, the President does get a passing mark overall. Particularly when one looks at the budding alliance between pro-Estrada forces and the extremist and opportunist elements in the nation's volatile politics, it becomes clear that there are worse alternatives to the Macapagal administration.

This report brings together the work of six groups commissioned by Code-NGO to assess the accomplishments in various areas of the Macapagal's administration vis-à-vis targets set by the MTPDP 2001-2004, Socioeconomic Pact 2001, and last year's Sona. The groups are the Ateneo Center for Economic Research and Development, Agrarian Reform-NOW!, Institute on Church and Social Issues, RVR-AIM Center for Corporate Responsibility, and Institute of Governance, De la Salle University.

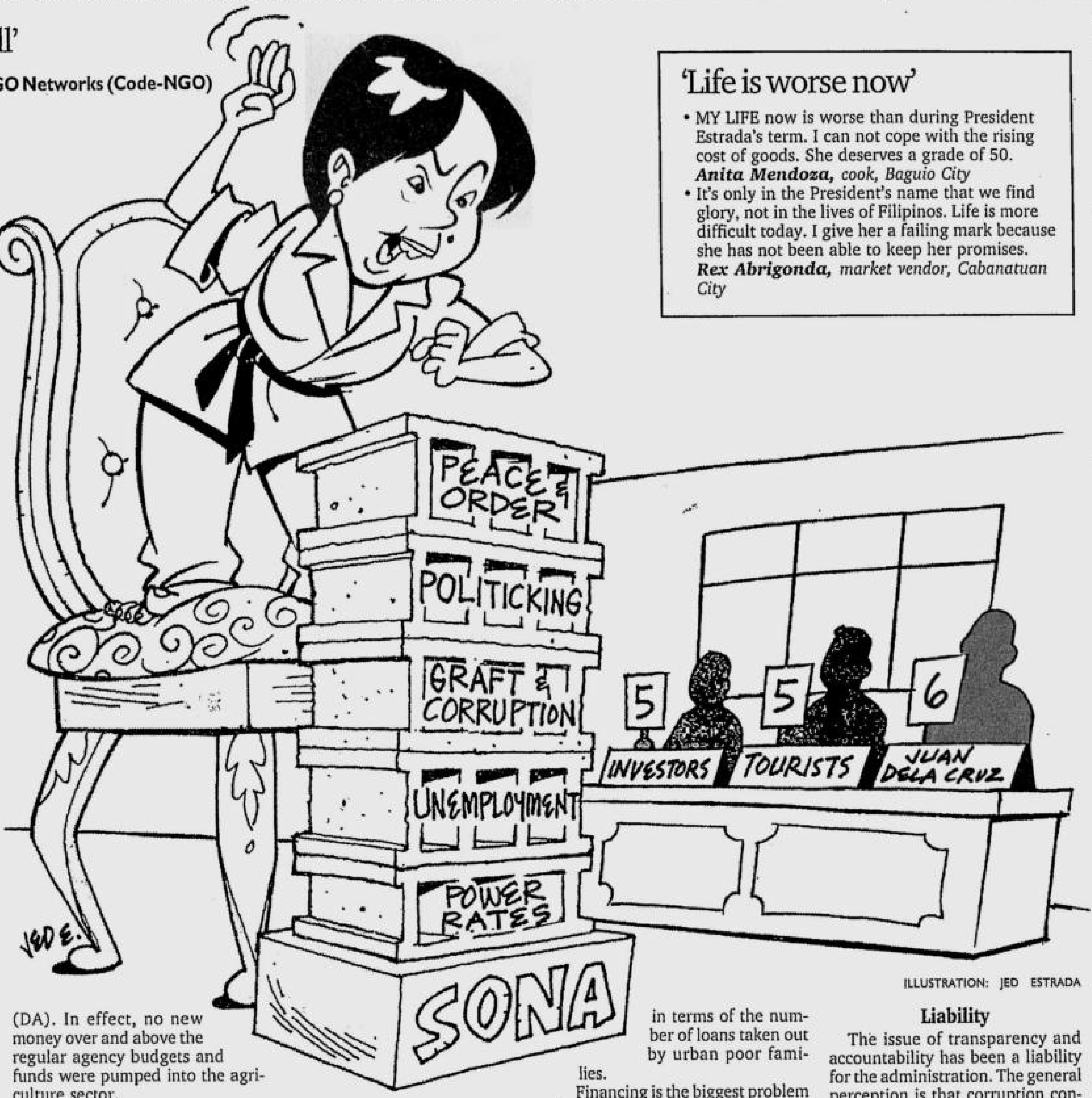


ILLUSTRATION: JED ESTRADA

'Life is worse now'

- MY LIFE now is worse than during President Estrada's term. I can not cope with the rising cost of goods. She deserves a grade of 50. ***Anita Mendoza,*** *cook, Baguio City*
- It's only in the President's name that we find glory, not in the lives of Filipinos. Life is more difficult today. I give her a failing mark because she has not been able to keep her promises. ***Rex Abrigonda,*** *market vendor, Cabanatuan City*

'Now, I have a job'

- LIFE improved, but only a little. I was unemployed before her administration. Now, I have a job. The pay is small but at least, I'm employed. I give her a grade of 80 percent. ***Glenn Meñeza,*** *waiter, La Paz, Iloilo City*
- My salary was upgraded recently but the prices of goods at the public market also increased. Every item today, from squash to banana, has to be placed on the weighing scale. Vendors will not even give me a 50-centavo discount. I know the President is doing what she can, but it's not good enough. I give her a 70. ***Delamar Mariano,*** *printing press employee, Laoag City*
- I don't understand where this government is going. Her policies and mind seem to change on a whim. Like her stance on allowing death penalty for smugglers after saying earlier that she was against the death penalty. She also just modified some of Estrada's projects like the rolling stores and giving of certificate of land ownership titles to beneficiaries and claimed them as her own. She is also being photographed mingling with the masses, maybe to show that she is also *"pang-masa."* For these reasons I give her a failing mark of 70. ***Christopher Ruela,*** *Internet café manager, Davao City*
- My life improved under President Macapagal-Arroyo. Among her most notable achievements is the strengthening of the peso against the dollar. My livelihood is about the same as the year before last, though. I would grade the President 90 percent. ***Librado Arquisal,*** *barber, Dumaguete City*

'She has failed us'

- THE COST of commodities and services such as education is rising. The gap between the rich and the poor has also widened. The purchasing power of the peso has weakened. She has not even addressed the issue of overpopulation. She plays politics so much. In my book, she has failed the Filipinos so I give her a 73. ***Janet Albaño,*** *teacher, Calasiao, Pangasinan*
- My life did not improve since she assumed the presidency. Ordinary Filipinos are poorer than ever. I would rate her below 75. I think she is resorting to gimmicks, like being a *bolera* in an effort to woo Filipinos. ***Antonio Montereal Jr.,*** *radio station manager, Ilagan, Isabela*
- At least we can say that her administration is a lot better than Erap's term. We cannot blame her for the government's inability to solve all the problems in the country. It is evident that she is working hard. Unfortunately, her subordinates are not doing the same. I give her 80 percent, because she really did everything she could to keep her promises. ***Viva Villanueva,*** *computer analyst, Baguio City*
- Well and good, so far. She's trying hard but there are those who are pulling her down. I should have given her a rating of 99 percent but she has not done anything about the price of gasoline. Since last year, gasoline prices rose six times but there was no rollback. We know *basta tumaas ang presyo* ng gasoline, *tataas lahat*. I give her a grade of 75. ***Isdiro Cantos,*** *jeepney driver, Cotabato City*

'I give her a *pasang-awa*'

- MY LIFE has not changed for the better. The prices of commodities are even higher now. Even if my salary has increased by P1,000 a month this year, I can hardly cope with the expenses of my family. I wanted to look for other better paying jobs but there are no opportunities. My wife wants to work, too, but she can't find work. Then I always hear news about corruption in government. The President has not stopped illegal drugs, too. I give her 75 percent or *pasang awa* because, maybe she is trying, but her efforts are not enough. ***Dominador Castañares,*** *head waiter, Leisure Coast Resort, Dagupan City*
- Life is getting worse. The value of the peso is getting smaller to the point that it's difficult to stretch P100 to feed a child three times a day. The price of rice is rising. Small businessmen are being burdened by higher taxes and so much red tape. Likewise, I don't see any improvement in the political situation. ***Allan Surpia,*** *businessman, Tacloban City*
- Life was better before her presidency. I could buy more with P500 then. I give her a grade of 60. ***Angelo Tiongson,*** *farmer/employee, Dumaguete City*
- I am giving her a failing grade of 70. The economy gets weaker, she has been sitting on the power problem in the country, and the worst is when she pushed for the RP-US Balikatan exercises which are a transgression of our sovereignty. ***Ben Boiser,*** *agent (Pre-need Plans), Cagayan de Oro*

Interviews by Anselmo Roque and Carmela Reyes, PDI Central Luzon Desk; Cristina Arzadon, Yolanda Fuertes, Leoncio Balbin Jr., Villamor Visaya Jr., Jovelyn Reyes and Gobleth Moulic, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau; Ven Labro, Nestor P. Burgos Jr. and Alex V. Pal PDI Visayas Bureau; and PDI Mindanao Bureau.

The WORLD

Editor Luverne B. Gueco

Peru disco blaze kills 25; over 40 hurt

LIMA, Peru - A fire ripped through a packed disco in the Peruvian capital on Saturday after a fire-eater ignited curtains when he blew out a plume of flames, killing at least 25 persons and a lion and tiger that were part of the show, officials said.

Firefighters confirmed the 25 deaths and said more than 40 people were injured. More victims were feared trapped inside the Utopia disco in an upscale neighborhood of Lima.

The fire started around 3 a.m. local time during a party which featured live animals in cages to

celebrate the disco's second month anniversary.

Police said the blaze, which was brought under control by morning, was started by a fire-eater who set curtains 'on fire during his act.

It was the second major fire in Lima in less than 12 months.

In December, Peru vowed to step up fire safety standards after more than 300 people died when a fireworks store in a poor shopping district of central Lima caught fire.

But authorities said the disco, which was operating without a permit, lacked fire safety features such as clearly marked exits and sprinklers.

Canal N cable television said alcohol, not water, was thrown on the flames, causing them to spread rapidly.

Moises Gordillo, who escaped the blaze, told RPP radio people had thought it was part of the show when the ceiling caught fire. Another witness described the ensuing panic.

""It all happened incredibly quickly, everything happened in a matter of seconds. It was so fast people didn't realize what was really going on,"" the man, who declined to give his name, told Canal N. He said he had been among the first of about 1,000 revelers inside to escape.

""There were too many people inside, you couldn't move,"" he said, adding that some people had jumped from the second floor to escape.

Tulio Nicolini, head of Peru's volunteer fire service, said the emergency exits were not properly signed.

""This was a disaster waiting to happen,"" Nicolini said, adding the disco had no sprinkler system that could have helped douse the flames.

""It was a terrible tragedy that could have been avoided with adequate safety measures,"" he said.

Carlos Dargent, mayor of the residential Surco neighborhood where the disco was located, said it had been an illegal operation with no building or operating license. *Reuters*

AFP

EVITA'S 50TH DEATH ANNIVERSARY MARKED
This undated file photo taken in Buenos Aires is of Argentinean First Lady, Maria Eva Duarte de Perón "Evita" released in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of her death, July 26, 1952.

Carter: Americans need to understand foreign hatred

ATLANTA—Former US President Jimmy Carter says American isolationism and the widening gap between rich and poor nations are creating more hatred toward the United States, especially in the Third World.

Carter, in an interview Friday, said Americans have to try harder to understand and help people in the world's poorest nations.

"I think, if I can be presumptuous, that the Sept. 11 attacks woke a lot of Americans up to the fact that, justified or not, many people don't like us," Carter said. "They fear us and they despise us, even to the extent of wanting to kill our people."

Carter, 77, said he hoped the Carter Center—celebrating its 20th anniversary this year—could show poor nations "the best of America" as it works to eliminate conflict, reduce poverty and improve health care access.

Carter says many terrorists are angry because most people in their countries have a standard of living much lower than Americans, with little hope of getting out of poverty.

"These are people who maybe were afflicted with poverty and were seduced by terrorists to lash out at us," Carter said.

He said that the Carter Center has now a renewed responsibility to reach out to people who are different from Americans and let them know that America really cares. *AP*

US to sanction Chinese firms for weapons sale

WASHINGTON—The United States said Friday it would slap sanctions on 10 foreign companies it accused of selling chemical and germ warfare agents or destabilizing arms to Iran—nine of which, officials privately confided, were Chinese.

The move, the latest in a string of punishments levied on China-based companies, threw the spotlight back on a fiercely divisive area in Sino-US relations—the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

President George W. Bush has made the issue a central plank of his foreign policy, saying he fears terrorists could be supplied with weapons of mass destruction by members of what he has tagged the "axis of evil:" Iran, Iraq and North Korea.

State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said US officials were acting under the 1992 Iran-Iraq Arms Nonproliferation Act and the Criminal and Biological Weapons Control and Warfare Elimination Act of 1991.

"On July 9th, we made a decision to impose sanctions on 10 entities pursuant to these laws," Boucher said, but declined to identify the firms by name of divulge their countries of origin until the US Congress is officially informed.

A senior State Department official later said the companies hailed from China and India. Another official said meanwhile that only one of the companies was based in India.

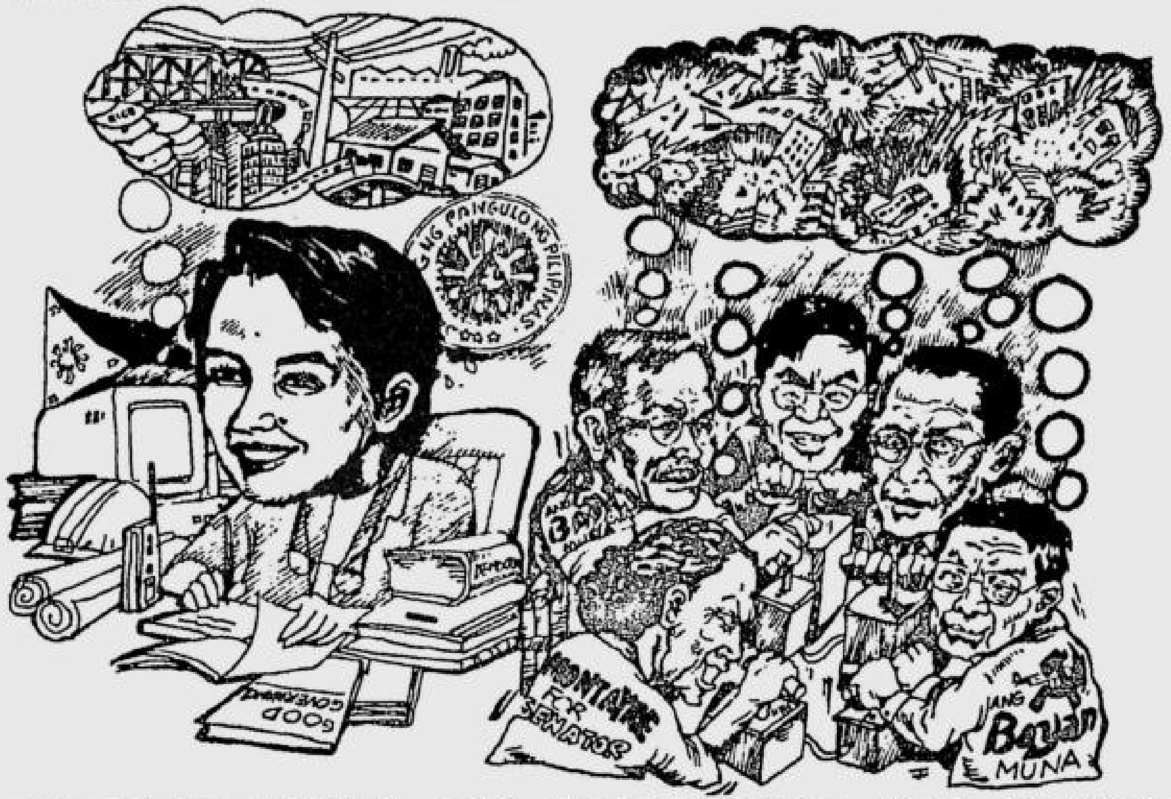
Boucher said eight of the firms were being sanctioned for sending materials to Iran, including items destined for Tehran's chemical weapons program. Two sanctioned entities had sent transfers to either Iran or Iraq, he said.

The sanctions, which are directed only at the companies concerned and not their countries of origin, prevent those targeted from doing business with the US government.

They also prohibit US officials from issuing export licenses to US companies seeking to sell goods to the sanctioned firms.

The United States last imposed sanctions on eight Chinese firms and businessmen over alleged transfers to Iran in May, drawing an angry response from Beijing, which denied any wrongdoing.

Last September, the State Department slapped sanctions on China Metallurgical Equipment Company and accused it of sending missile components to Pakistan's National Development Complex, which was also sanctioned. *AFP*



REJECT THE PROPHETS OF DOOM!

It is Time to Heal the Nation and Build the Future

We agree with Bishop Socrates Villegas. The hecklers, the ambitious politicians and the prophets of armed revolution have all conspired to produce a "culture of disdain." It is a culture that demeans our institutions and undermines our economy.

We agree with the observation of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines. There are those among us who will pick on the most petty things and try to produce a national crisis out of it.

Over the last 18 months, we have seen a government hard at work. Over the last few weeks, President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo focused intently on reducing electricity prices. This month's lower billings demonstrate what a working President can accomplish. When the President set high targets in last year's State of the Nation Address, she was heckled by the conservative opposition and by the radical leftist groups. Those targets have been met. And she has vowed to work harder to do more. Still, the hecklers refused to be silenced.

Our people are sick and tired of all the heckling, the politicking and the acts of sabotage. All the gains accomplished by a decent and hardworking government are blurred. Investor confidence is undermined. The economy is weakened by the shadow of political turbulence that the prophets of doom try hard to project.

The poorest Filipinos are the first victims of these troublemakers. It is they who lose jobs when investments are withdrawn. It is they who lose opportunities when economic growth slows down.

On close analysis, all the excessive political noise is being generated by only three major types:

- The fanatic communist groups and their front organizations who are trying to foment a political crisis or revolutionary situation. They believe this will pave the way for the bloody revolution they always dream about.

  These full-time agitators in and outside Congress are experts in using democracy to destroy democracy. They use legal ways and means to support and promote armed violence as the main weapon to seize state power and impose to obsolete system of socialism. Legitimate and popular issues are exploited by these groups, not to come up with constructive measures, but mainly to alienate the people from the government. The government cannot do anything right as far as these communists are concerned.
- The criminal and narco-politicians who invested heavily in the deposed Estrada politicians and have lost opportunities to recover their losses. They continue with efforts to destabilize the present government and restore a criminal regime in power. Their champions are par excellence in 'salvaging', drug trafficking, money laundering and mounting unsuccessful coups.
- The ambitious political personalities - most of whom were primary leaders in the corrupt and dysfunctional Estrada presidency - who fear the success of President Arroyo. That success will kill their hopes to take power in the 2004 elections.

These troublemakers will not stop unless ordinary citizens take a firm courageous stand to defend our economy and build political order.

These troublemakers will continue to undermine our country's development unless all patriotic Filipinos take a determined stand for peace, stability and progress.

We have endured enough of these agitators. We call on all Filipinos of goodwill and lovers of freedom to join us in exposing and opposing the hecklers and traitors out to sow disunity, destroy our institutions and threaten our democracy.

Enough of divisive politics. All Filipinos, young and old, rich and poor, Christians and Muslims are bound together. Our challenges rush to meet us. If we are to achieve our goals - if we are to fulfill our eternal quest for peace, freedom and prosperity - we must persevere in doing it together.

★ **National Alliance For Democracy (NAD)**
★ **Ang Bagong Pilipino (ABP)**
★ **Samahan sa Ikauunlad at Gabay ng Bayan (SINAGBAYAN)**

Join the unity rally on Monday, July 22, 2002 at 3:00 p.m., Quezon Memorial Circle, Q.C.
Assembly point: East Ave. cor BIR Road, 2:00 p.m.

Always tune in at **BAYAN KO, SAGOT KO!** Monday to Friday 7:00 - 8:00 P.M. 1278 Khz. DZRM

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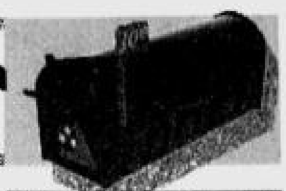

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BUREAU OF LOCAL EMPLOYMENT
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT
2F Velco Center, Robert S. Oca St.
Port Area, Manila

or to any DoLE Provincial, District or Regional Office nearest your place of residence.

✂ CUT HERE

GUIDE ON ACCOMPLISHING THE FORM:

All registrants are advised to fill-up the form in printed style. Registrants must provide information truthfully. Cross out unfilled spaces or write NONE or N/A where applicable. The following items enumerated below are required to be filled-up properly. To assist registrants, we are providing examples on how to supply the required information.

a) **WORK EXPERIENCE**- refers to any experience on the job acquired by the registrant beginning with the most recent one. Indicate/describe the nature of work performed.

Examples:

Position/Occupation
- Pediatric Nurse
- Office Clerk
- Mason
- Physical Therapist
- Automotive Painter
- Boom Crane Operator
- Boiler Ship Operator
- Mechanical Engineer

b) **SKILLS/COMPETENCIES** - refers to any skill or expertise that the registrant has acquired through training and work experiences.

Examples:

Trade/Occupation
- Finishing Carpenter
- Webpage Designer
- Shielded Metal Arc Welder
- Heavy Equipment Operator
- Ship Electrician

c) **TRAINING ATTENDED**- refers to short courses taken from government or private training institutions and given appropriate certificates of completion and/or attendance.

Examples:

Title
- Basic Automotive Mechanic Course
- Computer Maintenance
- Food & Beverage Preparation
- Beauty Culture
- Ship Building and Repair Training
- Refrigeration & Air-conditioning

d) **PROFESSIONAL LICENSES** - refers to any special license granted by any Professional Regulatory Board under the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) or the Air Transportation Office (ATO) for those in the air transport sector.

Examples:

License title
- Professional Electrical Engineer
- Certified Public Accountant
- Third Marine Engineer
- Second Mate

e) **CERTIFICATES OF COMPETENCE/ELIGIBILITIES** - refers to eligibilities given and conferred by any authorized body recognized by the government or issued by industry.

Examples:

Eligibility/Certificate
- Career Civil Service Professional
- Microsoft Certified Professional
- CISCO Certified Network Engineer
- TESDA Certified General Electrician
- TESDA Certified Cosmetologist

f) **HIGHEST EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT** - refers to the highest level of education,attained whether graduate or undergraduate in any academic or vocational institution.

Examples:

Educational Level	Course / Major
College Graduate	BSBA- Major in Accounting
3rd year undergraduate	BS Nursing
Vocational Graduate	Assoc. in Marine Engineering
3rd year High School	....
Elementary Graduate	....

Additional documents to support the information provided by the registrants must be attached to the Registration Form. **DO NOT SEND ORIGINAL COPIES** of diplomas, transcript of records and certificates. The Department of Labor and Employment is not liable in cases where original documents sent to the Department are destrdyed, damaged or lost. The Registration Form may also be downloaded from BLE-DoLE website *http:/www.ble.dole.gov.ph*

No Fees will be collected from any of the Registrant in Manpower Registry.

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT
NATIONAL MANPOWER REGISTRY

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REGISTRATION FORM

Name: (Last Name) First Name) (Middle Name)

Address: ____________________

Telephone No.:( )
Date of Birth:
Sex: ☐ Female ☐ Male
Email Address:
Place of Birth:
Religion:
TIN:
Age:
Weight Height

Date of Birth:
☐ Single
☐ Married
☐ Widow/Widower
☐ Separated

Employments Status:
☐ Employed
☐ Unemployed
☐ Displaced Worker
☐ Resigned/retired
☐ Returning OFW

Languages/Dialects spoken:
☐ English
☐ Filipino
☐ Spanish
☐ Japanese
☐ French
☐ German
☐ Others ____________

JOB PREFERENCES:
Wage Employment
☐ Overseas ☐ Local
Preferred Positions ____________

ASSISTANCE NEEDED:
☐ Training on Entrepreneurship/Livelihood
☐ Business Counseling
☐ Others ____________

*Work Experience: *Start with the present job or most recent one*

Position/Occupation	Inclusive Date From (month/year)	Inclusive Date To (month/year)	Company Name	Address

*Skills/Competencies: *Indicate specific skills or competencies acquired through training and work experiences.*

Trade/Occupation	Specialization/Experience	Years of Experience	Machine/Equipment Used

*Training Attended: *List relevant course taken in government/private training institutions & given appropriate certificates of completion and/or attendance.*

Title	Conducted by (Institution)	Duration (No. of Hours)	Specific Skills Acquired

*Professional Licenses: *Any special license granted by any Professional Regulatory Board under the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) or the Air Transportation Office (ATO)*

License Title	Expiry Date

*Certificates of Competence/Eligibilities: *Certificates of competence given and conferred by any authorized body recognized by the government or issued by industry (e.g. Computer Programmer certified by TESDA)*

Certificate/s	Issued By	Date Issued

Highest Educational Attainment: *Highest grade completed/education level.*

Education Level	Course/Major	School/University	Year Graduated Year Last Attended	Honor/s Received

(For Sea-based Workers) Onboard Experience or Land-Based Experience Related to Seamanship:

Position	Agency/Company	Vessel	Type/Tonnage	Date of Service

I hereby certify that information herein given by me are complete, true and correct.

Date Accomplished

Signature

* *Use separate sheet if necessary*

LOOK, MA, NO HANDS! Reuters
A Chinese trainer performs with an elephant at Xiangjiang Safari Animal World in Guangzhou, the capital of Guangdong province in southern China July 18. The performance is part of efforts to attract more visitors from home and abroad.

Experts confirm glaciers melting

ANCHORAGE, Alaska—Look out the window at the Chugach National Forest's visitor center at Portage Glacier south of Anchorage, and what do you see? A big lake.

Icebergs that once floated on the lake are mostly gone and Portage Glacier is now barely visible from the visitors center the US Forest Service built at the site.

The glacier, one of the state's top tourist destinations, is one of the most obvious casualties of a trend confirmed by scientists at the University of Alaska Fairbanks on Friday.

They found that melting glaciers are responsible for at least 9 percent of the global sea-level rise over the past century.

Portage Glacier has been in gradual retreat since the early 1800s. But the US Geological Survey, which studied the site in the early 1970s, could not forecast how quickly that retreat would occur.

"They made a really wild assessment that it would take until 2020 to recede out of sight," said Dave Blanchet, a Forest Service hydrologist.

In fact Portage Glacier disappeared from view of the visitors center in 1993, Blanchet said.

Now the glacier has retreated so far that only a small portion of it is in the lake, and there are far fewer icebergs calving into the water, he said. Erosion from the water is likely what sped up the glacier's shrinking, he added.

Mona Spargo, a Forest Service spokesperson and lifelong Alaskan, said Portage Glacier's diminishment is obvious to residents such as herself.

"It's disappointing when you go there and you say, Oh man, remember what it used to be like?"

Portage Glacier is not the only victim. The University of Alaska Fairbanks team flew over 67 glaciers and compared their readings to measurements taken by the US Geological Survey in the 1950s.

Writing in the journal Science, they said the glaciers had lost, on average, more than half a meter a year in height, or more than a foot and a half.

The most dramatic change the team found was at Columbia Glacier in Prince William Sound, said Anthony Arendt, a graduate student who worked on the study. That glacier has been shrinking about 7 meters a year, he said. *Reuters*

Spain-Morocco islet row tirades worsen

BEL YOUNECH, Morocco—Spanish and Moroccan posturing over the disputed islet of Perejil intensified on Friday, with no sign Spain was willing to pull out the troops who seized it three days ago.

Late on Friday Spanish state radio reported that the military's presence on the Canary Islands, Spanish territory off the west coast of Africa, had been stepped up and 17 troops had been posted on the uninhabited Isla de Lobos.

"We have strengthened our presence in the Canaries. That is all I am prepared to say," a government official told Reuters when asked to comment on the radio report.

In Paris, Moroccan Foreign Minister Mohamed Benaissa declined to confirm an earlier pledge not to reoccupy the disputed islet in exchange for the withdrawal of Spanish troops.

"The main thing is that Morocco is asking for the withdrawal of the troops from Spain, that we return to the situation where we were previously and that we leave time for the air to clear, because the climate is now polluted," he said.

And he raised a red rag to Spain by saying any talks over the future of Perejil should be linked to the Spanish North African enclaves of Ceuta and Melilla.

"It has been a contentious issue for a long time but let's be realistic, sooner or later we will have to broach the subject. I'm not insisting that it should be right away," he said.

Spain has already strengthened its military presence in the historic cities, which Morocco has long coveted. *Reuters*

Police sure they have Samantha kidnapper-killer

LOS ANGELES—A southern California man will be charged with the abduction and murder of 5-year-old Samantha Runnion, a police official said on Friday, adding that detectives had no doubt that the 27-year-old factory worker was the little girl's killer.

Alejandro Avila, who was acquitted of molesting two other young girls in 2000, was taken into custody Friday morning in the case that has terrified parents across California and transfixed much of the nation.

Prosecutors were expected to file charges against Avila in the coming days.

"I am 100-percent certain that Mr. Avila is the man who kidnapped and murdered Samantha Runnion," Orange County Sheriff Mike Carona said. "We believe that our physical evidence and the investigative information we pulled together (and) the help we received from the public combined will prove that he in fact is that individual."

Carona, appearing at a press conference, also addressed Avila personally.

"I told you, Mr. Avila, that we would be relentless," he said.

Avila, who lives in Lake Elsinore, California about 16 km from the lonely spot on a two-lane forest road where Samantha's bruised and naked body was found, was arrested on one of the more than 2,000 tips from the public. *Reuters*

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NATIONAL CONSUMERS QUALITY AWARDED TO

Likas PAPAYA HERBAL SOAP

LIKAS PAPAYA HERBAL SOAP, the country's most sought-after whitening and beauty herbal soap was recently awarded the NATIONAL CONSUMERS QUALITY "Most Outstanding Herbal Soap Brand". The award was organized by the National Consumer Affairs and Lead-a-Life Foundation in recognition of Likas Papaya's exemplary performance and product excellence as based on opinion surveys and evaluation benefiting the general public. The award was given last June 16, 2002 during the joint Annual Presentation of the National Consumers Quality Awards and Handog kay Itay Father's Day Celebration held at Camp Aguinaldo in Quezon City.

CONSUMERS
QUALITY
NCQA

(From left) Mrs. Pimentel; receiving the award is Mrs. Belen Mangahas Bayoneta; as awarded by Sen. Robert Barbers and Secretary of Defense Angelo Reyes.

Likas
PAPAYA
HERBAL SOAP

Likas Papaya is made from 100% natural botanical ingredients and natural herbs with no harsh ingredients to keep the skin fresh, smooth, clean and radiant ; with a formulation that also effectively whitens the skin. Manufactured by Trinidad Cosmetics Laboratory (TCLI), Likas is the first and only organic herbal soap in the country that has earned the trust of millions of Filipinos nationwide regarding skin care.

TCLI introduced Likas Papaya Herbal Soap to the market in a simple brightly-colored orange box that enjoyed widespread customer patronage where the manufacturing line was a hard put.. It has not even escaped the threats of imitation when the proliferation of fake Likas spawned, and eventually prompted top marketing honcho of TCLI to design a product packaging that will enable its customer to identify the authentic. It now comes in a new laminated orange box glued on both ends with the hologram Mystica of TCLI Logo to assure its authenticity, quality and to keep up its battle against piracy.

Likas Papaya Herbal Soap.
Para sa kagandahang
likas na iyo!

"Mystica Logo"

"Likas is the first and only pure papaya organic herbal soap in the country that has earned the trust of millions of Filipinos nationwide regarding skin care."

The unprecedented success of Likas traces its roots back in 1988 when its first plant site was a mere makeshift out-building in Lagro, Novaliches. Headed by Mrs. Belen Mangahas-Bayoneta, its manufacturing capacity back then was just five thousand soap bars per day produced manually by four employees and the owner. Now, after almost 14 years of extensive research and innovation, TCLI operates its fully-automated product processing plant in Tandang Sora, Quezon City with a manufacturing capacity of no less than a hundred thousand soap bars per day widely distributed around the country and even abroad such as in US, Middle East and in other Asian countries.

Moreover, TCLI is opening its doors for international distribution in other countries like in Australia, Africa, Bahrain, Brunei, India, Taiwan and others.

TCLI's hallmark of commitment attributes its development and still growing popularity through its continuous product research and improvement, packaging innovation and authenticity to its product's organic components that resulted to the wonderful breakthrough product that perfectly understands the skin's needs.

Through innumerable efforts of determination, stalwart commitment to product excellence and loyalty to patrons, LIKAS PAPAYA remains to be the most trusted, popular and widely-used herbal soap designed to pamper the most sensitive people that matters most - YOU.

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Isabela mayor defies suspension order

SANTIAGO CITY—Beleaguered Mayor Jose Miranda defied the three-month suspension order by the Sandiganbayan's second division for a 1997 case of abuse of authority and official functions.

Instead of heeding the order served by the Department of Interior and Local Government on Thursday, Miranda on Friday sent a memorandum directing all department heads and employees at the city hall that the suspension order against him had "no force and effect."

Miranda advised department heads to disregard communications, orders and instructions of acting Mayor Clarito Manubay "since his assumption to office is irregular and illegal and has no force and effect."

He said the order has not become final and executory and violated the omnibus election code.

The code, he said, prohibits the suspension of elective provincial, city, municipal or barangay officials during an election period without approval of the Commission on Elections unless the suspension is on a corruption charge.

The election period for the July 15 barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan elections started on May 31 and would end on July 30.

Manubay, however, appealed to city officials to cooperate with him.

"I am only a servant who follows the law. The law says the vice mayor will serve as acting mayor when the mayor is suspended, so I just did the right thing to fill in the vacuum," he said.

Interior Undersecretary Eduardo Soliman Jr. earlier asked Miranda to refrain from "further exercising the powers and performing the duties, functions and responsibilities of the office of the mayor, and allow the vice mayor to assume his duties and functions."

Renato Brion, DILG regional director, swore in Manubay as acting mayor on Thursday afternoon.

Miranda was not in his office when DILG officials served the order.

His suspension stemmed from the case of usurpation of authority filed by former Mayor Amelita Navarro against him on Nov. 26, 1997.

According to the Sandiganbayan second division's order, Miranda illegally assumed his post in 1997 after he had served only four of six months of his suspension for alleged involvement in jueteng operations in the city. He was suspended in July 1997 but he assumed his post in November that year.

The order dated June 17 was received by the DILG here on July 11. It was signed by Associate Justice Edilberto Sandoval, chair of the Sandiganbayan second division, and Associate Justices Godofredo Legaspi and Raoul Victorino.

In her complaint, Navarro, then vice mayor and who became acting mayor after Miranda's suspension, said Miranda proceeded to the mayor's office and started giving orders to the various heads of office and other employees.

The Sandiganbayan acknowledged that Miranda's actions had caused serious disruptions in the day-to-day affairs of the city government.

The DILG said Miranda's assumption to office had "no legal basis."

The Sandiganbayan denied the motion for reconsideration filed by Miranda's lawyers for lack of merit.

The case dragged on for almost five years because of the appeals and counter motions filed by the camps of Miranda and Navarro before the anti-graft court.

Miranda was meeting with DILG officials at his house in Dubinan East here on Friday and could not be immediately reached for comment.

Rosel Dizon, Miranda's chief of staff, said the mayor would contest the Sandiganbayan order before the Supreme Court. *Villamor Visaya Jr., PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Southern Luzon will experience rains and gusty winds. Coastal waters of this area will be moderate to rough. The rest of Luzon and Visayas will have rains and isolated rainshowers and thunderstorms. SOURCE: **PAGASA**

Metro Manila	Rains	Hi 28°	Lo 23°
Baguio	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 22°	Lo 15°
Tuguegarao	Partly Cloudy	Hi 36°	Lo 26°
Laoag	Partly Cloudy	Hi 33°	Lo 25°
Clark Zone	Rains	Hi 29°	Lo 23°
Tagaytay	Rains	Hi 26°	Lo 21°
Legazpi	Rains	Hi 29°	Lo 24°
Calapan	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 32°	Lo 22°
Iloilo/Bacolod	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 29°	Lo 24°
Roxas	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 29°	Lo 24°
Cebu	Rains	Hi 28°	Lo 23°
Tacloban	Rains	Hi 30°	Lo 24°
Gen. Santos	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 30°	Lo 23°
Zamboanga	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 29°	Lo 23°
Cagayan de Oro	Partly Cloudy	Hi 30°	Lo 22°
Davao	Partly Cloudy	Hi 31°	Lo 24°

Compiled by: Armin Adina, PDI Research/07/21/02

RP-US military exercises not linked to Sept. 11 attack

SUBIC BAY FREEPORT—The chief of the United States Navy fleet participating in the Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (Carat-02) said the exercises had little to do with the Sept. 11, 2001 attack in the US.

"It is an annual bilateral exercise, and we really start planning a couple of days after the previous exercise, so there's really little between the 9-11 (attack) and the Carat exercise," said US Navy Capt. Charlie Martoglio during the opening of the 11-day exercises on Wednesday.

Martoglio, however, said the Carat exercises tend to get more competitive each year "to keep these relevant to today's world and increase sophistication in the exercises."

"This year, the US chose to bring a cruiser down and bring some investigation specialist to help in things like forest protection," he said.

"Obviously, one of the things that the US takes seriously is forest protection. So we have added extra forest protection features to Carat 2002," Martoglio said.

He said the exercises would also cover disaster relief and humanitarian assistance.

The Carat-02 will complete the remaining five of 18 military exercises as part of the Mutual Defense Treaty between the US and the Armed Forces of the Philippines for 2002.

The exercises, which are being held in Zambales and Cavite, are designed to promote "interoperability between the US and the Philippine forces in the areas of operational planning, command and control, tactics and community relations projects."

Brian Weaver, US Coast Guard navigator for USS Vincennes, confirmed that the Carat exercises include live firing involving US Navy personnel and their Filipino counterparts.

"As far as I know, we are doing gunfire together, but no missile fires or something like that, only gunfire," Weaver told reporters who went on tour of the 380-personnel USS Vincennes (CG49).

The USS Vincennes is part of a five-vessel contingent from the US Navy that will take part in the annual exercise.

The others, all docked at Subic Bay Freeport, are dock landing ship USS Anchorage (LSD36); guided missile frigate USS George Phillip (FFG 12); rescue and salvage ship USS Salvor (ARS 52); and US Coast Guard vessel USCGC Morgenthau (WHEC 722).

About 1,400 American sailors and 1,396 Filipino naval personnel are participating in the training. *Ansbert Joaquin and Allan Macatuno, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

A STATUE of Inang Laya stands in front of a guided missile of US Vincennes in Subic Bay port. Soldiers are making preparations for the joint naval US-RP Carat 2002 exercises.
DENNIS SABANGAN

ROUNDUP

Business meet

COTABATO CITY— Wary about the tarnished image of Muslim Mindanao as a war-torn region, officials of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao agreed to hold here the first business congress for journalists tomorrow. Abebakrin Lukman, ARMM information chief, said the First ARMM Business Congress Press Launching at Sardonyx Plaza was an idea of Gov. Parouk Hussin, aimed at luring entrepreneurs to invest in the ARMM provinces of Maguindanao, Lanao del Sur, Basilan, Sulu and Tawi-Tawi. The gathering, Lukman said, hopes to enhance "confidence-building to reinvigorate the business sector amid unhealthy economic conditions." ***Charlie Señase, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

Elections nullified

STO. DOMINGO, Ilocos Sur—A judge here nullified the 2001 election victory of Mayor Floro Tadena when it ruled on Friday that his opponent won after a recount. In a 276-page decision, Judge Dominador Arquelada said former Mayor Alfred Figueras won by 464 votes over Tadena. Records showed that after a recount, Figueras had 4,462 votes against Tadena's 3,998. Arquelada ordered Tadena to vacate his post and turn over the office to Figueras. Tadena appealed the decision. ***Leoncio Balbin Jr., PDI Northern Luzon Bureau***

Rebels charged

BALANGA CITY—Police on Tuesday filed charges of violation of the omnibus election code and illegal possession of explosives against four suspected members of the Rebolusyonaryong Hukbong Bayan operating in Bataan. The police identified the suspects as Rolando Flores, 38; Jerry Tungol, 31; Rodolfo Agustin, 35; and Herson Manahan, 33, all of Orani town. Supt. Sahiron Salim, Bataan police director, said the suspects were caught while posting campaign materials for Ronnie Lazatin, a candidate for barangay captain of Sta. Rosa in Pilar town last Monday. Police recovered four hand grenades from the suspects.
Greg Refraccion, PDI Central Luzon Desk

Ex-cop nabbed

SAN FERNANDO CITY—Police arrested and detained a retired police officer on charges of possession of shabu worth P1.5 million in a buy-bust operation in Barangay Catbangen here on Tuesday. Chief Supt. Arturo Lomibao, police director for Ilocos, said retired Supt. Benjamin Alviento, 57, of Candon City, was under surveillance for his alleged involvement in drug trafficking. Seized from Alviento, who retired from the police service last year, were 766.9 grams of shabu placed in 10 plastic bags. ***Peter La. Julian, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau***

Arrested for murder

BALANGA CITY—Police arrested two men in connection with the killing of a Japanese in Mariveles town last week. The body of Mikio Ashimura, 58, was found on Saturday in a grassy lot in Barangay Alas-asin in Mariveles. Police said Ricky Junio, 21, and Orlando de Vera, 23, were arrested in their hideout in Sasmuan, Pampanga, for the death of Ashimura. The Japanese was reported missing by a certain Divina Ogata several days before his body was found. ***Greg Refraccion, PDI Central Luzon Desk***

I killed in mishap

SAN FERNANDO CITY—A woman was killed while her husband and granddaughter were hurt on Tuesday when their Isuzu Elf turned turtle in Bacnotan, La Union. Police said Natividad Tudlong, 51, died while undergoing treatment at a hospital here. Her husband Bernard and granddaughter Deny Dumawa were declared out of danger. Reports showed that Tudlong, a former aide of former Ilocos Sur Gov. Luis Singson, was negotiating a slippery road at the height of Typhoon "Gloria" when he lost control of the wheel.
Leoncio Balbin Jr., PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

Road mishap

PUERTO PRINCESA CITY—Three persons were slightly injured when a Toyota land cruiser rammed a tricycle and a motorcycle along the national highway on Tuesday. The land cruiser, with no plate number and driven by Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Officer Rodolfo Amurao first slammed the tricycle driven by Ricardo Igna, then the motorcycle of Palawan Press Club president Beethoven Crasco. ***Geraldford Ticke, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau***

Lucena bank scam victims hit court summons

LUCENA CITY—Nine alleged victims of a recent scandal that hit the Metropolitan Bank and Trust Co. here cried foul when they got a court summons after the bank's lawyer asked for judicial assistance.

This, after the victimized depositors failed to bring their case to the court.

Josephine Rances Tan, trustee of her mother's dollar deposits, could not help laughing at what she claimed was an irony.

"We're the victims here. But it seems we are now the ones being persecuted," she said.

She showed the INQUIRER a copy of the summons from Regional Trial Court 141, Makati City.

Metrobank, in a statement, however, stressed that its action was "not a complaint against the claimants concerned but a mere action to seek assistance from the court to determine the liability of the bank, if any, to these depositors."

The bank said it has returned more than P7 million in deposits with interest to more than 20 claimants.

It is now two months since bank depositors learned that Melita Chua-Tadiosa, a Metrobank employee here, had allegedly bled their bank deposits dry.

Metrobank has filed a case of qualified theft and falsification of commercial document against Tadiosa and three John Does.

At least P5 million was stolen by Melita Chua-Tadiosa, the bank's charge information sheet said.

"This summon is one form of harassment," Tan said. "How come there's a portion here that states that they did not receive money from me and there were no official bank records of the transactions?"

She wondered why the bank wanted her to sign a waiver as a condition for the return of her mother's deposit.

"It only means that they have my mother's money," she argued.

Metrobank lawyer Dennis Tudao explained that the bank is now auditing every transaction made by the suspect.

When asked if the John Does could be bank insiders, Tudao replied that it could also be "bank outsiders." *Delfin Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Kalinga twins need help

BAGUIO CITY—With two hearts beating in one body, Siamese twins Leah Grace and Rachel Sunset Lawel of Pasil, Kalinga need to be separated through a complicated operation but their parents do not have money to support the children's medical needs.

Born on July 1, the twins from Barangay Bagtayan in Pasil are confined at the Kalinga Provincial Hospital in the capital town of Tabuk and are being observed by doctors.

Dr. Marlene Duya, the twins' pediatrician, said Leah and Rachel have bigger chances of survival compared to other Siamese twins because their vital organs were observed to be functioning well.

Duya said they have yet to determine if the twins are joined through muscles or skin because this would decide the type of operation that would be performed on them.

"Although we cannot see through their bodies yet, we are sure their vital organs are intact. But we cannot also say that their condition is not as complicated as the cases of other Siamese twins because they also need to go through a tedious operation (to separate them)," Duya told the INQUIRER.

The twins' parents, Marietta Banatao and Andy Lawel, both 24 and farmers in Pasil, have asked local officials for financial assistance for the operation of their daughters.

The twins weighed only 4.52 kilograms when they were delivered through Caesarian, Duya said, noting that their weight have yet to improve. She said the twins are also suffering from severe skin rashes. Kalinga Gov. Macario Duguiang said they have started pooling funds for the twins.

"We need more Good Samaritans to help these children," Duguiang told the INQUIRER.

He said the twins will be taken to the Philippine Children's Medical Center in Quezon City for a series of tests. Should the twins be cleared for surgery, he said they will be transferred to the Philippine General Hospital for the operation.

Support for the twins may be coursed through Duguiang at mobile phone number 0920-6046243, the provincial Department of Social Welfare and Development, or through the Kalinga Provincial Hospital. *Desiree Caluza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

Maguindanao town mayor survives assassination try

COTABATO CITY—A Maguindanao town mayor survived an assassination attempt by gunmen who barged into his home here on Friday night.

But a helper of Mayor Salipongan Dagloc of Kabuntalan town in Maguindanao was killed when caught in a crossfire during a shootout between his security escorts and the suspects.

Bastian Dagloc, the mayor's son and another helper, Marissa Johana, were injured during the firefight.

Responding policemen nabbed one of the suspects, Nasser Abdullah. A .45 caliber pistol was taken from him.

Insp. Abdulwahid Pedtucasan, police station 4 chief, said three gunmen quietly entered one of the two houses of Dagloc in the densely populated Campo Muslim, Barangay Bagua Mother here at about 8:30 p.m.

Armed with two M-16 Armalite rifles and a handgun, the suspects claimed they were looking for Mayor Dagloc who was in a nearby house.

A shootout occurred, but Bastian Dagloc and other police escorts managed to overpower Nasser Abdulla at the kitchen. Abdullah denied being a companion of the attackers. He said he happened to pass by the crime scene and when he heard gunbursts, he hid at Dagloc's kitchen.

Abdullah could not explain to Senior Supt. Sanggacala Dampac, city police chief, why he was in possession of a gun.

The other suspects served as lookout and fled on board a white L-300 van with tampered license plate.

Dampac told reporters that the attempt on Dagloc's life was related to the political controversy in Kabuntalan. *Edwin Fernandez, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

INQUIRER*Mindanao*

Editor **Jun Bandayrel** ◉ *Bureau Chief* **Nico A. Alconaba**

Why the OIC factor?

KUSOG

Fr. Eliseo R. Mercado Jr.

SOUTHERN Philippines, particularly the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM), is intricately connected to the wider and bigger community of nations known as the Organization of the Islamic Conference or the OIC. The basis of this connection is the fact that the Muslims in Southern Philippines, also known as the Bangsamoro, belong to that one universal Islamic Ummah (community).

While the OIC was organized in the aftermath of the 1967 Middle East War to support the Palestinian rights, it has, through the years, taken broader and larger issues affecting the Islamic Ummah, especially in places where Muslims are in the minority. It is in this light that beginning in the early 70s, the OIC has begun addressing the struggle of the Bangsamoro as represented by the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) under the leadership of Nur Misuari. The OIC recognizes the MNLF as the sole and legitimate representative of the Bangsamoro people, according it an observer status in the organization.

The continuing concerns of the OIC and its active participation in finding solution to the problem in Southern Philippines led to the actual brokering of the Tripoli Agreement in 1976 between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines (GRP) and the MNLF. This OIC-sponsored agreement has become the "mother agreement" that brought an end to the war of secession and paved the way for the Bangsamoro autonomy within the territorial integrity and constitutional processes of the country.

From 1976 to 1996, the Tripoli Agreement had been the subject of disagreements, controversies, charges and counter-charges not only between the two principals but also among the various stakeholders of peace in Mindanao.

There were attempts during the Aquino presidency to resolve these issues under the auspices of the OIC. But they bore no substantial fruit outside the ceasefire agreement between the GRP and the MNLF.

It was the Ramos administration that forged the Final Peace Agreement, between the GRP and the MNLF, in 1996 through the facilitation of the OIC's Committee of the Six chaired by Indonesia. The final agreement of 1996 is the definitive interpretation of the 1976 Agreement both in letter and spirit. It puts an end to the MNLF's war, and from 1996 the MNLF has become the government's partner in peace and development programs in Southern Philippines.

In all the ups and downs of the peace talks in Southern Philippines and in all the vagaries of the peace agreements forged between the GRP and the MNLF, the OIC through the Ministerial Committee of the Six (now of the Eight because of the inclusion of Malaysia and Brunei) continues to be present at times as facilitators, at other times as mediators, and still at other times as forceful "messengers" of compromised win-win formula.

Through the years and through thick and thin, both parties have learned to acknowledge and respect the objectivity and the sincerity of the OIC to resolve the Bangsamoro problem within the territorial integrity and constitutional processes of the republic.

The OIC has remained an active participant in ensuring the implementation of the 1996 Peace Agreement. From day one of the agreement, the OIC continues to mediate between the GRP and the MNLF a common reading and interpretation of the agreement. In its annual meeting, a special session is devoted to the assessment of the implementation of the 1996 Peace Agreement.

In Khartoum, Sudan, the OIC of Foreign Ministers, for the first time, was confronted with several sensitive issues involving the Bangsamoro people. First is the fact that the MNLF leadership is contested by at least two major groups (the Misuari Group and the Executive Council of the 15). The Philippine government has taken side and recognizes the Executive Council of the 15 as the legitimate, collective leadership of the MNLF.

While acknowledging the split in the MNLF leadership, the OIC has decided to stay clear from the MNLF leadership crisis. It recognizes that the issue is an internal affair of the MNLF.

The second issue is the fact that from the Bamako Conference of 2001 to the Khartoum Conference of 2002, there are several major events in the implementation of the 1996 Peace Agreement. There is the new autonomy law, RA 9054, that "legislated" the 1996 Peace Agreement and paved the way for the expansion of the ARMM under RA 6734. Then came the August 14, 2001 plebiscite for the ratification of the new Organic Law. This was followed by the 2001 ARMM elections that saw the election of Dr. Parouk Hussin as the new governor of the expanded ARMM.

The Philippine government and the MNLF Executive Council of the 15 are in the thick of all these intervening events. The OIC, on the other hand, takes cognizance of these events notwithstanding some questions, including the election of Hussin as governor of the ARMM, as positive developments in the implementation of the 1996 Peace Agreement.

The third issue is the peace talks and the ceasefire agreement between the GRP and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF). As in previous OIC statements, it recognizes and acknowledges the resumption of the peace talks and the ceasefire agreement between the GRP and the MILF.

No doubt, the OIC is a crucial factor not only in the implementation of the 1996 Final Peace Agreement between the GRP and the MNLF but also in the peace talks and ceasefire agreement between the GRP and the MILF.

There are people who at times see the OIC's involvement in the Bangsamoro people as "interference" in our internal affairs. But things have dramatically changed in understanding peacemaking, peacekeeping and peacebuilding. It is now universally acknowledged that the Jurassic border or frontier mentality has given way to a more global responsibility and "multi-stakeholdership" when it comes to the issues, among others, of peace, justice and environment.

From our own experience, the active involvement and participation of the OIC in Southern Philippines has always been a moderating as well as sobering influences on the principals and all stakeholders to come out with a peaceful negotiated and principled settlement. On this basis alone, we should not only welcome the OIC factor in the Southern Philippines peace process but also thank the OIC for its objective, sincere and helpful facilitation and mediation of the peace talks and actual implementation of the forged peace agreement.

Why haven't artists been sleeping well lately, Madame President?

DUGONG MINDANAW

Geejay Arriola

We want to know what the Mindanaoan youngblood, middle-aged blood or high blood are thinking about what's happening in Mindanao and the rest of the country.—Ed.

I NEVER made it to the first part of your speech at the National Conference on Culture and the Arts 2002 on June 13, Madame President, although many have told me I didn't miss much. I was in the lobby smoking my impatience off—you arrived late. And when you did arrive, I was in the middle of a very important chat with somebody from the Concerned Artists of the Philippines (CAP) who told me they were organizing a demonstration outside the Pearl Manila Hotel entrance where the conference was held. (Some of us joined them later).

When I finally got inside the ballroom to hear you speak, I had to stop myself from walking out on you. I wanted to give you a chance, Madame President, so I decided to stay on. As a line in this movie I just saw goes, "I never hung up on anyone, just in case the next thing he/she says will change everything (for the better)."

First I heard you say that you wanted to get rid of the Cultural Center of the Philippines (CCP) because it is "elitist." Alas, you probably just inherited that word "elitist" from the activists of yore, during the time of Imelda Marcos when the CCP was, indeed, built for herself and her socialite friends.

Casualty

You probably don't know, Madame President, that soon after the Marcoses left, it was because of the CCP that there were two National Theatre Festivals where grassroots, traditional, and contemporary performing artists would meet, dialogue, share skills, and network. It was because of the CCP that the Mindanao theatre network (Mindulani, Inc.) thrice held Mindanao-wide Theatre Festivals. You probably don't know, Madame President, that it was because of the CCP that music and theatre groups in Mindanao like the Kaliwat Theatre Collective, Sining Kambayoka, IPAG, and Joey Ayala at ang Bagong Lumad, among others, became known nationally because of the CCP's production and tour grants. You probably don't know that it was because of the CCP that people in Mindanao know there is a Tony Maigue, a Cecile Licad, and a Ballet Philippines, among others—all wonderful, competitive artists bred locally and known internationally.

You probably don't know, Madame President, that because of these many inter-artist, intercultural, inter-regional exchanges and journeys, artists in the regions have developed friendships with the staff of the CCP whom you can approach not for an autograph but for a problem at your local arts group, for advice, or for consolation even.

And you probably do not know that when there are budget cuts at the CCP, the first casualties are these powerful and beautiful exchanges between and among artists from everywhere in Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao. That's when CCP is forced to become "elitist" again, confining its services to performances and workshops inside the building, because it can no longer afford nationwide mobility.

Then I heard you say, Madame President, that you were going to revitalize the Metropolitan Theatre because the cinema, for you, is the most popular form of art, to which I grudgingly agree. (I only watch Lino Brocka, Peque Gallaga, and the younger Carlitos Siguon-Reyna). As a kid, you said, you used to watch the movies of Nida Blanca and Nestor de Villa with your grandmother at the loge of a movie house while your driver Romeo would pay for his own ticket and watch the same movie at the orchestra. After the movie, you said, your grandmother would call out, "Romeo, Romeo, *uwi na tayo* (Let's go home!)"

You said, further, that 20 percent of the population in the country come from Metro Manila. Add another 20 percent from neighboring towns and cities, you can get 40 percent of the entire population to go to the Metropolitan Theatre to watch a movie, perhaps of Judy Ann Santos, as Nida Blanca is now dead (my line).

This population estimate—your version of bringing art closer to the masses—and because of your wonderful memory of watching movies with grandma, you would shell out P50 million for a nationwide search for the best movie script.

Essential

Now that, Madame President, implies that all artists and writers ought to shift to movie scriptwriting because that's where the buck is. Meanwhile, while the Judy Ann Santoses and Sharon Cunetas of Philippine cinema get paid millions for each puppy love, Cinderella, and menage-a-trois movies they make, theatre artists get paid P500 for every performance of a play about peace in Mindanao. Traditional performing artists get paid much, much less, if at all!

And how sad it is, Madame President, that you do not know that culture and art exist among the majority of the population which this government must seriously support as well.

Consider the traditional arts of Moro and indigenous peoples—their crafts, their dances and their music—which have managed to survive, despite the onslaught of MTV culture. Now traditional art is not to be "accommodated," as you condescendingly said, rather it is to be nurtured. There is a major difference. When you "accommodate," you presume it exists as a non-essential, as an "other," an existence outside your own which you put on display in museums or wear at costume parties. When you "nurture," you presume it exists as an essential part of your identity, which it is, in case you don't know, Madame President—unless you have forgotten you are a Filipino.

Imagine for a moment if you allocated that P50 million for the sustenance and development of Moro and indigenous art. Trees will grow, rivers will flow, for their art is sourced from nature, and the countrysides will reverberate with the sounds of gongs, drums, flutes, bells, and stomping feet playing all night long, singing the music of peace. You will be filling tables with food and houses with the harmonious spirit of art.

Order

Consider other folk art traditions—the *tinikling*, the *harana*, the *uyayi*, the *rondalla*. Have you heard Visayan folk songs, Matud Nila, Usahay and their kin? Alas, these traditions are slowly dying as well.

Consider the many Pasyon plays performed in small towns and barangays during the Holy Week and witnessed by entire Christian communities, the child angels singing on Easter Sunday, and the Flores de Mayo—these are all part of the rich folk arts traditions of our nation.

Consider the visual artworks on peace made by children survivors of war during stress-debriefing workshops, the storytelling sessions and the songs sung in refugee camps and crossfire communities, the poems written by women survivors of abuse and domestic violence. Culture, Madame President, is the process of creation from human minds and hands, and art is making sense and creating order out of the world—art that won't make it to the entrance of your Metropolitan Theatre.

Artists and cultural workers are therefore not unruly, Madame President, as you implied, so much so that they need to be managed by "professional managers," or facilitated by "professional facilitators" to put order to what you think would otherwise be a chaotic organization or event. Perhaps you meant they are free, and not unruly—free to express, free to talk, free to write—that's why it appears like they have no sense of order. Or perhaps you meant they are "too free" and must therefore be silenced and put in single-word hexagonal "meta cards" without explanation, like what we were subjected to during the conference?

Historians, ethnographers, archeologists, folklorists, and Margaret Mead will tell you, Madame President, that civilizations were borne out of creative work. Nations have been built upon arts and culture. Thus the first casualties of war and invasion are the arts and culture. Remember Hitler? Remember the Cultural Revolution? Remember the Japanese and the Spaniards?

Virtuosos

And in case you don't know, Madame President, the conference ended with a closing speech from the new NCCA Board Chairperson Undersecretary Evelyn Pantig who told all of us that because there was little fund for arts and culture, the distribution of funds is on first-come, first-served basis. We therefore request you, Madame President, to advise the Chairperson that the first-come, first-served basis of fund distribution does not spell sustainable development. Neither is it an effective resource and artist management. It is compelling us, artists and cultural workers, to race against each other for that single plate of rice on the table.

Fortunately, Madame President, we don't work that way. For us to have happy and peaceful lives, we need to plan, to program, and most of all, to share resources.

The resource speakers saved the day, Madame President. Except for one or two, they were, to say the least, virtuosos in their field who provided exciting information based on a wealth of experience and research. Unfortunately, the process of interaction and reflection provided by the workshop facilitators was stifling. Fortunately, artists that we are, we knew better. And so on the second day, Madame President, we broke away from the hexagons and managed our own group processes. Now that, Madame President, empowered us all. Empowerment and genuine interaction are supposed to be the essence of a gathering of minds.

Despite the many bugs in the conference, I left the two-day session in high spirits. The best discussions about culture and the arts were at the coffee table after the conference sessions, late into the night, and mostly with artists I have met for the first time. There at the table were debates and quite disparate views about globalization, peace, unity, spirituality, and nationhood. There at the table were artists negotiating each other's views, and facilitating their own discussions amid joy and laughter.

I hope that one day soon, Madame President, you will sit down with us and discuss and learn about culture and the arts, not as a keynote speaker, not as the President of the country, but as an ordinary human being seeking answers to age-old questions.

I know we can work together, Madame President. I personally think people in government can be open-minded, and can work well with artists and cultural workers. We continue to have successful government-business-artist partnerships in the regions—Bohol, Zamboanga del Sur, and Davao, to name a few. It is just that the arts and culture is not your territory, it is ours. All you have to do is listen, understand, and support our endeavors. Leave it to us experts in this field to define our structures and programs, and to set our own directions.

We are not here to destroy society, Madame President, we are here to re-build it.

Geejay Arriola is a theater and music artist, a web designer, and a development worker based in Davao City.

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July 24-26	Coconut Mini-Oil Milling and Refining (*with field trip*) (*In cooperation with ITDI/DOST*)
July 24 & 26	Handmade Paper Novelty Items
July 26-27	Aromatic and Decorative Candle Making (*In cooperation with ITDI/DOST*)
July 27-28	Jewelry Appraisal and Pawnshop Operation
July 27-28	Catering Business Operation
July 27-29	Event Planning, Marketing and Management (NEW)
July 27-29	Fresh Flower Arrangement and Flower Shop Operation and Management (*with field trip*)
July 29	Franchising a Business
July 29-Aug. 1	Electroplating
July 30	Setting up a Travel Agency
July 30-31	Corsage and Bouquet Making
July 30-Aug. 1	Management of Service Contracting Business
Aug 1-2	Setting up a Hardware and Construction Supply Store
Aug 1-2	Printing Press Business (*with field trip*)
Aug 3-4	Herbal Bath Soap (*in cooperation with ITDI/DOST*)
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Aug 3-4	Aromatic and Decorative Candle Making (*in cooperation with ITDI/DOST*)
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July 25-26	Intensive Culture of Tilapia in Tanks (*with field trip*)
July 25-27	Orchid Growing and Nursery Management (*with field trip*)
July 28 & Aug. 4	Current Options for Intensive Prawn Farming (*with field trip*)
July 29-31	Animal Feed Formulation and Production (*with field trip*)
Aug. 1-2	Duck Raising (*with field trip*)
Aug. 3-5	Tilapia Culture (*with field trip*)

Food Courses

July 23-25	How to be a Canteen Concessionaire (*with field trip*)
July 23-26	Home Bakeshop
July 25-26	International Cuisine (*Asian and European*)
July 27-30	Commercial Breadmaking and Bakery Management
July 30-31	Basic Meat Processing
July 31	Flavored and Fortified Juice
Aug 1-2	Chinese Dimsum
Aug. 3-4	Specialty Cakes and Pastries

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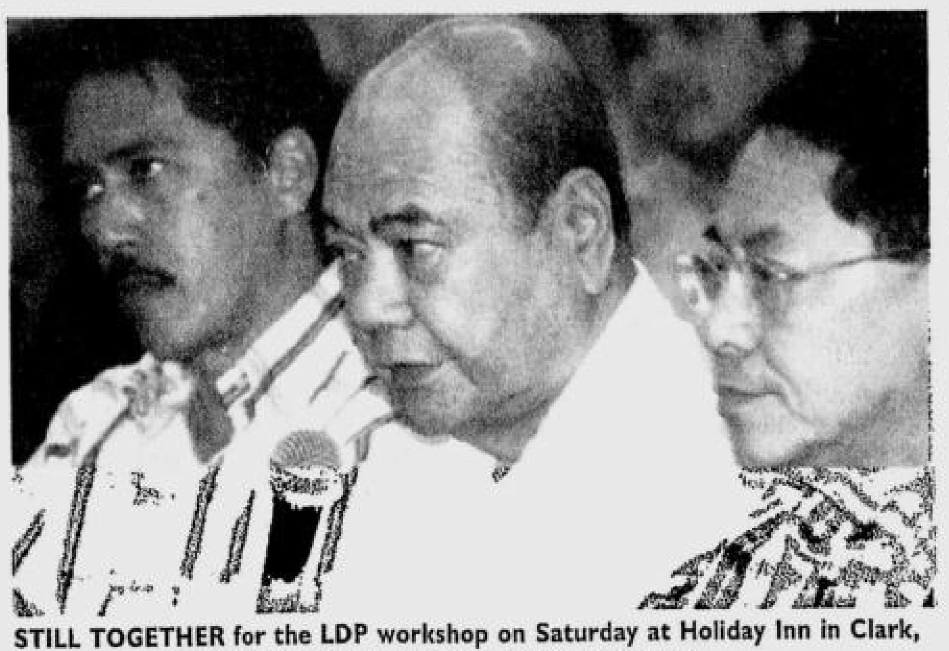
From page A1



STILL TOGETHER for the LDP workshop on Saturday at Holiday Inn in Clark, Pampanga, are from left, Senators Sotto, Ople and Angara.

LDP in the process.

"My support (for the opposition) remains," Sotto said at the Holiday Inn Resort at Clark where he and other LDP members convened for the two-day workshop that began Friday.

"All of us in the opposition will not lose our company," Angara stressed. "There's absolutely no basis to the report that Senators Sotto and Jaworski will join (the administration)."

Inducements

Angara described Ms Macapagal as "the only President who sought to destroy the minority in the Senate by all sorts of inducements."

He said the ultimate loser would be the Filipino public because the Senate was "now mute with the administration senators having taken over."

Without referring to the foreign affairs portfolio offered by the administration to Ople, Angara said he did not wish to see the elder senator leaving the Senate.

"We don't want to lose his wisdom and company," Angara said, adding that Ople was the "dean of the Senate" and a "valuable treasure."

At the press conference, Angara chided the administration for its supposed attempts at piracy. "*Hataw nang hataw, nangpipirata,*" he said without elaborating.

Then he appealed to the administration: "*Huwag kaming buwagin* (Don't demolish us)."

Ople said at the press conference that contrary to the President's statement, he had not met with her.

He said there had not been a formal offer for him to take up the foreign affairs portfolio, so there was "nothing to accept or reject."

"Take my word at face value," he said.

Still 12-12

Angara expressed confidence that there would be no change in the Senate impasse despite claims by administration sources to the contrary.

He said the count would likely remain at 12-12 when the Senate session opens.

Opposition Sen. Rodolfo Biazon said he believed that the reported move of Sotto and Jaworski to the administration bloc was mere speculation.

His colleague, Sen. Aquilino Pimentel, also issued a statement saying both Jaworski and Sotto had given their word that they would not bolt the opposition "despite luscious enticements."

He said he did not believe that "the two senators will renege on their word, as men of honor should do."

"(Jaworski) gave his word as a man. That means he is firm in his stand," Pimentel said.

Angara said the LDP workshop was not an attempt to unify the opposition because "we are united."

He said the workshop was intended to determine the opposition's legislative agenda, "to help this fumbling government to help itself."

For the 12th Congress, the opposition batted for: protecting the interest of consumers, increasing global competitiveness, promoting agriculture and rural development, improving peace and order and national security, instituting genuine social reform and pursuing the development and equity of Mindanao.

Angara said the opposition was keen on introducing amendments to the Constitution, particularly those pertaining to the form of government and investments.

'Overseer'

As expected, the President announced yesterday that Sotto would "oversee" the anti-drugs campaign.

She said in a radio address that Sotto would "oversee the creation of the new Dangerous Drugs Board (DDB), an important office proposed to be established under the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002."

"Senator Sotto will work closely with the administration without resigning from the Senate," she added.

According to the President, she chose Sotto because he is the principal author of Republic Act No. 9165, the new drugs law.

"Aside from sponsoring the Dangerous Drugs Act, (he) is also known for his steadfast campaign against drugs in and out of the Senate," she said, adding:

"Now we must turn to the total implementation (of the law). A good beginning is to initiate the creation of the new Dangerous Drugs Board. This is where we need expertise and commitment.

"I am thankful to (him) for accepting this challenge and responsibility. I am sure that he will give to this task the fullest measure of his dedication, patriotism and professionalism." ***With a report from Dona Z. Pazzibugan***

Sotto may lose Senate seat

By Dona Pazzibugan

QUESTIONS on the legality of the appointment of Sen. Vicente Sotto were quick in coming.

His own former legal adviser, Romulo Macalintal, pointed out to the INQUIRER that the Constitution bans a legislator from holding an appointive post.

Macalintal said Sotto would automatically lose his Senate seat once he accepted the position offered by the President.

"Sotto and Malacañang cannot say that the senator need not resign from the Senate even if he accepts the appointment," the lawyer said, adding:

"Once he accepts that position and commences the functions of that office, his continued stay in the Senate might be questioned on constitutional grounds and there is the possibility that he might lose his elective position on technicalities."

Article VI Section 13 provides: "No senator or member of the House of Representatives may hold any other office or employment in government or any subdivision, agency or instrumentality thereof. Neither shall he be appointed to any office that may have been created ... during the term for which he was elected."

Malacañang itself was unclear about the appointment's legal basis.

Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye, a lawyer and former Muntinlupa representative, begged off when asked about it. "I don't know what his position is," Bunye said. "He could help in an advisory capacity. That should not conflict with his present position as senator."

Ex-janitor set to make history in California

From page A1

A lot of walking often figures in the making of exceptional men out of ordinary boys. It must brace their legs and fortify their souls.

After all that walking in Barrio Iquin, Ayao finished grade school with top honors.

The long-distance walker, one of seven children, migrated with his family to Angeles City, Pampanga, in the early 1960s.

"There was not enough money for high school," he says in a booming voice, in a charming mix of American twang and Bicol beat. "But instead of stopping, I swept floors at the Holy Angels Academy (now University) so I could have free tuition."

The part-time janitor was elected president of the Holy Angels student council.

He continued to work while taking a business course in college and, eventually, becoming a waiter, hotel clerk, radio announcer, and copier salesman. "Because I couldn't study full-time, it took me 10 years to finish a four-year course," he recalls.

After college, and for four years until he moved to California in 1985, he was an insurance agent and eventually a manager for Sun Life of Canada where, his campaign flier says, "he excelled and broke records in sales production."

Finding it

Ayao says he went to the United States "in search of greener pasture, and I found it" in California's San Fernando Valley.

In 1990, he set himself up as an independent real estate broker, a job he holds up to now.

"I found it there, a chance to achieve what you can conceive," he says. "As long as you're willing to work, your efforts will be rewarded."

Contradicting many Filipino expatriates who bash their countrymen almost as soon as they leave, he pronounces the Filipino *masipag* (industrious). "The Fil-Ams in my area are among the better-bestowed in terms of financial success," he says. "They are clean, they have nice houses. Americans are alarmed that some Filipinos leave their footwear outside the house."

Ayao, who has four grown children in the US, including an only son who is in the US Army, is a success in his mixed community. A Jaycees national vice president before he left the Philippines, he help found the Philippine Jaycees of LA and is a member of the Fil-Am Chamber of Commerce in the San Fernando Valley.

"I drive a Benz, of course," he says, referring to one of his four cars, and hastily explains: "In real estate there, it used to be the car of choice."

In October 2000, a Republican, "a guy I didn't know," approached Ayao and said, "Ely, there's a slot that we think you can fill."

"I'm a hard-working member of the community," Ayao says. "I wouldn't say I'm prominent. They were looking for someone they could sell, someone who has integrity, who is not tainted. There are many Fil-Ams with these traits, but it was my name that was given (to the party)."

Five months later, in March 2001, the nominee from District 39 won the California primary, making him the first Fil-Am to run for the state assembly.

Ayao says another Republican nominee, a Caucasian, withdrew, "I don't know why, but he even endorsed me, without me asking him."

Paralysis

His becoming almost totally paralyzed in March 2000 played a big part in Ayao's decision to stand in the state assembly election.

"I was afflicted with the Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS)," he says. "I lost my muscles."

GBS, also called Landry's ascending paralysis, strikes at the nerves outside the brain and spinal cord. It shows as a rapid weakening and, often, paralysis of the legs, arms, breathing muscles and face.

Perhaps half of the GBS cases come after a viral or bacterial infection such as a sore throat or diarrhea. In Ayao's case, it was a common cold.

"I was nine days and nine nights in the ICU (intensive care unit)," he says. "The worst thing about it was that I never lost my senses but I couldn't move, I couldn't talk. On my first day in the ICU, I was given extreme unction. My wife (high school classmate Marilou Beltran, a nurse at the Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles) covered all angles. She knew what to do."

When he recovered, Ayao vowed he would "wait for whatever purpose that He has for me."

Not enough

A year later to the month, Ayao was up and running for the California Assembly.

"I realized that up to this time, I have not contributed anything to the world," he recalls. "One of the reasons I became a Jaycee is the tenet that service to humanity is the best work of life. I thought that if I served my own interest, my family, that was good enough. *Hindi pala* (It's not so)."

Ayao is advocating "A Better Neighborhood," to include peace and order, clean surroundings, improved programs for the youth, a better school district, better care for the elderly ("they're among the first hit when budgets are cut because of the deficit"), affordable health care for all ("not all immigrants can afford health insurance"), and being business-friendly.

He is also espousing issues unique to Filipinos—"like the Fil-Am war veterans."

"They're dying every day," he points out. "You know how much they get? Their Medicare is about $600 a month. They live on that!"

Ayao says the Fil-Ams are "losing a lot" but "they don't care because most of them are gainfully employed."

He notes that the US government pays members of other ethnic communities just to go to school. "I mean, why not give the same benefit to all the immigrant groups?" he says.

Uphill race

The assembly election, which is by popular vote, involves 121,000 registered voters in Ayao's area—"60 percent Latinos, 20 percent Asians (including Fil-Ams), and 20 percent others."

But of the 10,000 Filipinos in his district, only 4,000 are registered voters, "so now I have a massive registration campaign," he says.

"It's an uphill race," he admits. "The district is predominantly Latino. On top of that, I have no political experience. I don't have a machinery. *Napakahirap* (It's so difficult)."

Still, Ayao the businessman is running his campaign like a marketing drive, with a group that includes Latinos, Japanese, blacks, whites, but mostly Filipinos.

"As we speak, there are committees being formed, fund-raising activities being organized, including a $100-per-plate gala for leaders of Fil-Am organizations," he says. "I need, like, $150,000 to win, minimum. I'm doing it the frugal way."

That means, he says, not going on TV, "which is very expensive," but going "house to house, door to door, man to man."

He explains: "Simple math. The voting population is 121,000. If I can raise $150,000, I'll send out mailers and be able to reach all voters. If I can get a 20-percent yield on that amount, I'm a winner."

Coming home

Win or lose on Nov. 5, Ayao hopes he will have helped awaken the Filipino consciousness in California, where "there are many successful Filipinos who are not doing anything to further the interest of the Fil-Ams because they're too contented."

And in about 10 years, when the youngest of his five children will have been 21 and on her own, Ayao says he just might come home to his native land.

"I miss being a Filipino," says the first-time politician who just might make history. "I miss the fellowship, the friendship of my countrymen. *Promdi pa rin ako.* In my heart, I'm still a country boy."

US troops build 'corruption-free' airstrip in two weeks

From page A1

Brig. Gen. Donald Wurster, co-training director of the RP-US Balikatan 02-1, said that after the rehabilitation, US troops used the airstrip "several times in bringing soldiers and supplies in and out."

Wurster's Filipino counterpart, Brig. Gen. Emmanuel Teodosio, said all the US projects completed in Basilan were "corruption-free."

The projects—numbering more than 40 and including 81 km of road, bridges and a port—are estimated to cost $4 million

"This serves as a wake-up call that if the Americans can provide projects with that amount, much more so our officials," Teodosio said.

He noted that big appropriations had been lost because of "our country's corruption and bureaucracy."

Landing

At exactly 10:30 a.m. yesterday, a Philippine Air Force C-130 with Reyes and military officials on board landed on the runway.

Reyes admitted there were doubts that a C-130 could land on the airstrip.

PAF operations chief Gen. Marciano Ilagan said that before its rehabilitation, the airstrip could only accommodate six-seat aircraft.

Yap said the airstrip could be opened to commercial planes to boost Basilan's economy.

He also said the residents now had "immediate access everywhere," and "investors could come in directly."

The airstrip still needs a terminal building, a control tower, visual approach lights, runway markers and security defense—for which, Yap said, "we can appropriate an amount."

Salapuddin said the airstrip was left unattended in the past 10 years after farm workers took over the adjacent 942-hectare rubber plantation owned by the late Hans Menzi.

He also raised the problem of maintenance, and suggested that the US government extend more assistance to sustain this and other projects it implemented in the province under Balikatan.

But Yap said local officials, the Department of Public Works and Highways and the ATO could take care of maintenance work.

ROGER MARGALLO

THE FIRST to land at the Basilan airfield was a C-130 with Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes on board to preside over the inaugural rites with ATO Administrator Adelberto Yap, Rep. Gerry Salapuddin and US Marines Maj. Dan Miller. Tight security (above right) attends the inaugural rites on Saturday.

House to play gracious host to GMA; 'fireworks' come later

By Juliet L. Javellana and Cynthia D. Balana

THE HOUSE minority vowed no disruptions at tomorrow's opening of sessions scheduled at 10 a.m.

But on Tuesday some "fireworks" could be expected in the House.

President Macapagal-Arroyo will deliver her State of the Nation Address at 4 p.m. to a joint Senate and House session at the Batasang Pambansa complex in Quezon City.

"We will be very courteous to the President who will be our guest. The most we can do is deliver a counter-Sona the following day," Minority Leader Carlos M. Padilla said in a phone interview.

Padilla also formally announced the defection of Leyte Rep. Ted Failon to the minority.

"He will be a valuable asset to the minority," Padilla said of Failon, a neophyte legislator and a former television and radio personality.

Failon boosted the ranks of the opposition, which numbers 21 out of Congress' 216 members.

The minority strongly protested when the House leadership adjourned three days ahead of schedule the session two months ago.

Speaker Jose de Venecia Jr. adjourned the session then in sympathy with Senate President Franklin Drilon, who adjourned the Senate to stop a power grab by the opposition.

The House opposition held two days of mock sessions.

The three Bayan Muna party-list representatives—Liza Maza, Satur Ocampo and Crispin Beltran—are set to join protesters outside the halls of Congress while the President delivers her annual policy speech.

"We believe that what the people have to say is of utmost importance," Maza said in a statement. "Any glowing statistics of so-called achievements that the President may present on Monday cannot repudiate the impact of her policies as told by the people."

Majority Leader Neptali Gonzales II said the House would support the President's policy to focus the second year of her administration on the improvement of peace and order.

Gonzales said the House would give top priority to anti-kidnapping and other peace and order measures.

Loser

In Angeles City, Sen. John Osmeña, whose swing vote last month triggered the Senate impasse, conceded that he might end up the biggest loser in the fight.

Osmeña told reporters that he would not be surprised if he ended up with no committee at all when the Senate session resumes.

Prior to the Senate impasse, Osmeña chaired the committees on finance and government corporations and public enterprises.

But with the emergence of the so-called "new majority" led by Sen. Edgardo Angara, Osmeña was given an additional committee—the energy panel chaired by Sen. Renato Cayetano.

"*Nagbabalot-balot na ako* (I'm packing up)," Osmeña said.

But he insisted that he never defected to the Angara group when he decided to leave the administration coalition in the Senate headed by Drilon.

"I did not join them. (The Angara group) joined me," he said.

Osmeña made his remarks as leaders of the administration and opposition bloc conducted marathon meetings to reconcile their differences.

Initial reports said the meetings might result in "power-sharing" in the Senate, with opposition senators getting some of the choice committees in exchange for their cooperation to pass Malacañang-certified measures.

Sought for comment, Angara tried to make light of Osmeña's statement.

"And you believed him? How easy it is for you to be fooled by him," Angara said in Filipino.

Whether it was Osmeña who joined Angara's group or vice versa is no longer important, Angara said.

He said what was important was for the Senate to regain its independence from the executive department.

Showing a conciliatory stance, Angara said there would be no "firefight" tomorrow.

He said the opposition would proceed to the Batasan to listen to and scrutinize the President's Sona.

But before then, the Senate will open its session in the morning with a prayer and roll call by the Senate President.

Angara said no Senate president pro tempore, majority floor leader, and secretary would be introduced to avoid a confrontation.

Earlier, Senators Manny Villar and Blas Ople, both acting as Senate president pro tempore, and Senators Loren Legarda and Aquilino Pimentel, both acting as majority floor leader, agreed to relinquish their posts in order to have a clean slate at the Senate.

Angara's group has proposed to the Drilon bloc that all committee chairmanships be declared vacant until Monday and that selection be made on the following day.

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Mike lauds Sonny heroism

From page A1

Macapagal-Arroyo opted to defer comment.

According to Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye, the President first wants the police to confirm Parsons' version of the events before she commends the former member of the '80s singing group Hagibis.

"We'd like to defer comment until the police investigation is completed," Bunye said.

He said he was not aware that the First Gentleman had not only congratulated Parsons but had even offered the Palace's free legal services in case he is charged in court.

Parsons, an actor and former councilor of Marikina, told the police he killed two of the six burglars in a shootout as they fled from his house. He said the armed men tied him up and his family members and then took off with several valuables. They also tried to rape his two daughters. After he untied himself with the help of a maid, he said he ran after the robbers who shot it out with him in the street. Two robbers died instantly; the third is under treatment at a government hospital.

Other victims now safe

In his statement yesterday, Mr. Arroyo said that through "Parsons' heroism, the other targets of the dead criminals are now safe."

"Had the holdup men escaped, anybody could have been the next victim. It could have been you, me, anybody. If only for this, Mr. Parsons deserves the support of everybody," the First Gentleman said.

Parson's act made other criminals think twice before attacking seemingly helpless citizens, he added.

"Once Mr. Parsons needs a lawyer, we'll be in court with him. All he has to do is get in touch with our office in Malacañang and anyone among our 40 volunteer lawyers will be ready to defend him," Mr. Arroyo said.

But a Palace source said Malacañang has heard of some doubts regarding Parsons' story.

Metro Manila Development Authority Chair Bayani Fernando, who is a former mayor of Marikina, was among those not convinced of Parsons' version of the events, the source said.

Parsons is Fernando's political rival. He ran for mayor against Fernando in 1995.

Progun is pro-Parsons

Also coming to Parsons' defense yesterday was the Peaceful, Responsible Owners of Guns (Progun), an organization representing licensed gun owners.

Progun, reacting to some reports that the police have filed homicide charges against Parsons, said the police move was "hasty and alarming."

According to Progun, Parsons is the second licensed gun owner this year to be prosecuted for defending himself. The first was Grace Tan who shot and wounded a snatcher who attempted to stab her.

Senate Majority Leader Aquilino Pimentel appealed to the police not to make things hard for Parsons.

"In my view, they should award him a medal, instead of adding to his troubles," Pimentel said in a statement.

He expressed concern over an increase in robbery incidents in Marikina where police efficiency was supposed to have already been improved. He said a house in Fairlane Subdivision was one of those recently robbed. The house is a street away from Pimentel's residence. ***With a report from Trina Lagura***

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SundaySPORTS
Editor Al S. Mendoza ● Assistant Editor Edwin M. Villanueva

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SUERTRES 1 8 2

Russia prevails; Brazil stopped

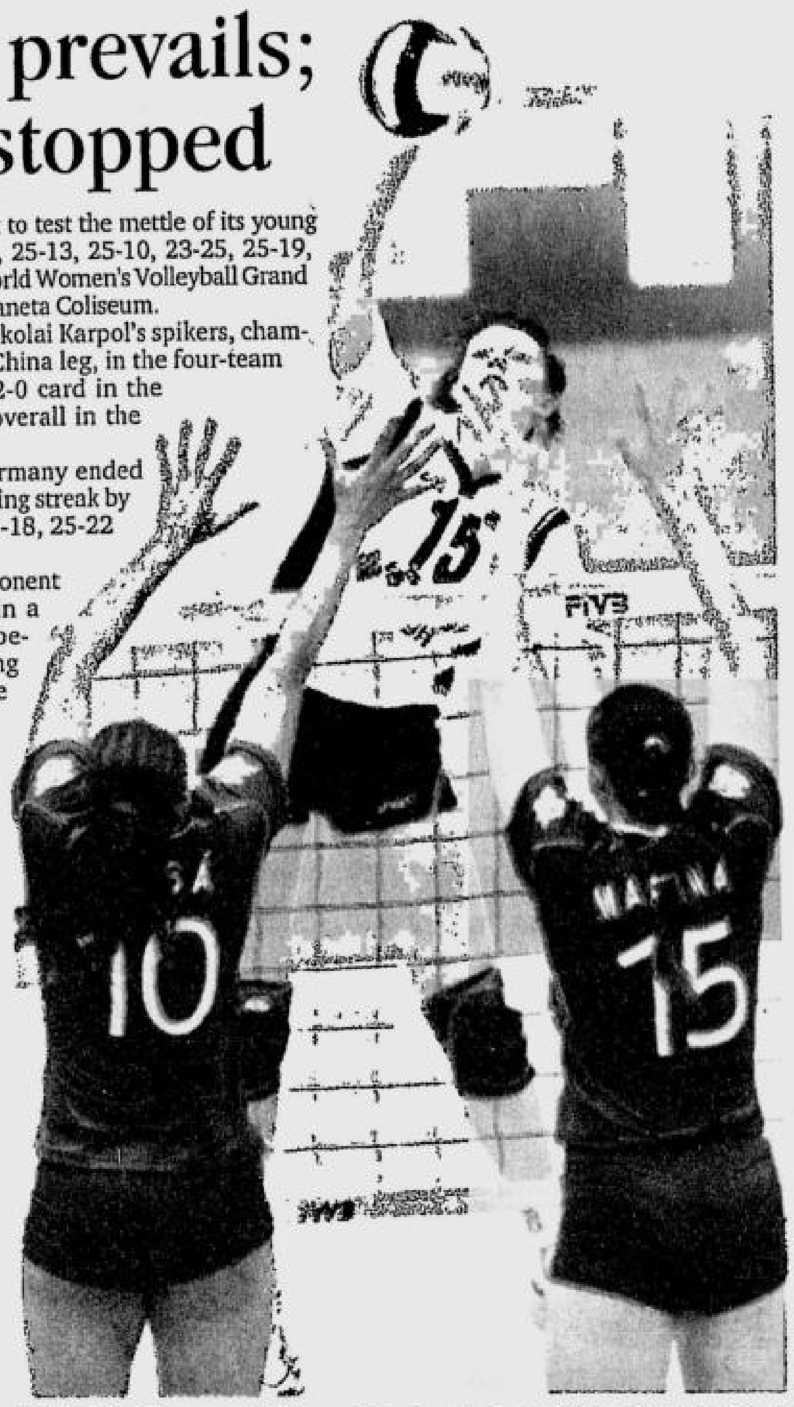
RUSSIA, taking time out to test the mettle of its young players, repulsed Japan, 25-13, 25-10, 23-25, 25-19, yesterday in the 10 th World Women's Volleyball Grand Prix Manila leg at the Araneta Coliseum.

The win put coach Nikolai Karpol's spikers, champions of the Chengdu, China leg, in the four-team finals after posting a 2-0 card in the Manila meet and 5-0 overall in the series.

Later in the day, Germany ended Brazil's four-game winning streak by carving out a 25-18, 25-18, 25-22 victory.

Russia's final day opponent today will be Brazil in a match which Karpol believes will give his young players the exposure they need in this leg supported by San Miguel Light, Agfa Film, Red Bull, PCSO, PSC, adidas, Philippine Tourism Authority, St. Monique-Valaise, Filmal Realty, Purefoods, Dari Crème Light, Nextel, Viva Mineral Water, Citibank, Kleenex and Kotex.

While Karpol believes five games is enough to get to the finals and that the match against Brazil will be merely a prelude to the four-team event to be held in Hong Kong on Aug. 1, a lot can still happen after today's matches pitting Japan against Germany at 3 p.m. and Russia against Brazil at 5 p.m.



WELISSA Gonzaga (left) and Marina Daloca of Brazil try to block a spike by Germany's Anjelina Gruen. ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

Grieving Django turns back Nikoy

Bustamante-Reyes q'finals duel up

CARDIFF, Wales—Losing a child unexpectedly was heartbreaking for Francisco "Django" Bustamante. Rather than soften him, however, grief only made him tougher.

Blocking thoughts of his eight-month-old daughter Mariel who died in Manila on Friday, Bustamante rallied to beat compatriot Antonio "Nikoy" Lining in the last 16 of the 2002 World Pool Championship at the Cardiff International Arena here.

Unfortunately for their fans back home, Bustamante is slated to meet Efren "Bata" Reyes, the other Filipino survivor, in the quarterfinals of the $300,000 (P15 million tournament).

Flashing the form that made him the 1999 champion of the event, Reyes dumped 1995 titlist Oliver Ortmann, 11-5, of Germany to advance.

Bustamante believes he'd survived the worst.

Trailing, 10-6, Bustamante took the next four racks to equalize, but was unsuccessful on the break. Lining blew his chance with a botched position on the 3 and scratched on his kick attempt, allowing Bustamante to clear out for the match.

BUSTAMANTE

The crowd, which diverted their attention from the center court battle between Americans Earl Strickland and Jeremy Jones, burst into loud cheers, but the normally jolly Bustamante merely bowed his head and silently packed up his cue.

"It was very difficult to play. At the beginning of the match I felt nothing. Like air. Later, I concentrated as I never had before," said Bustamante, pulling a photograph of the child from his wallet. "I can't believe she died. Look at her. She's very beautiful. When I left the Philippines on July 10 she was very healthy."

Bustamante's initial reaction upon knowing of her death was to catch the first plane out for Manila, but changed his mind after talking to his wife (Mila) and benefactor (Jose Puyat).

Django Bustamante beat Filipino compatriot Efren "Bata" Reyes, 11-8 to enter the semifinals of the $300,000 World Pool Championship.

"They said I could do whatever I want, but it is over and there is nothing I can do at home. I decided to stay on and play for my country," said the 38-year-old Bustamante, who is assured of $8,500 (P425,000) with each of the quarterfinalists.

Others who advanced were Strickland and two-time champion Johnny Archer; Japanese Kunihiko Takahashi, the 1998 winner, and Takeshi Okumura; Swede Marcus Chamat and Taiwanese Ching-Shun Yang.

Strickland beat Jones, 11-8; Archer tripped Kun-fang Lee,11-5; Takahashi whipped Alex Lely, 11-8; Chamat downed Isabela-born Canadian Alex Pagulayan, 11-7; and Okumura trounced Lu-kung Hung, 11-5.

Saturday's matches also pit Archer against Yang, Strickland against Takahashi and Chamat against Okumura. *Roy Luarca*

BRITISH OPEN

Els joins 5-man logjam on top

Woods lurking, just 2 strokes behind

GULLANE, Scotland—Ernie Els threatened to take command of the British Open with a 29 on the front side Friday before settling for a share of lead with four others. Tiger Woods wasn't far behind, keeping alive his hopes for a Grand Slam.

Els faltered on the back nine to finish with a 5-under-par 66 that left him tied atop a crowded leaderboard with Shigeki Maruyama, Padraig Harrington, Duffy Waldorf and Bob Tway midway through the Open.

Woods, meanwhile, had a bogey-free 68 and was only two shots behind the quintet of leaders with two rounds to go in his bid for a third straight major championship.

"Anytime you are near the lead in a major championship you must be happy," Woods said.

On a rainy day where birdies were plentiful on the Muirfield links, Els made three bogeys on the back nine to finish the round at 6-under 136.

Also there were Harrington (67 Friday) and Maruyama, who shot a second straight 68 while playing under the added pressure of being in the same group as Woods. They were joined there by Waldorf, who had a 69, and Tway, who shot a 67.

Els looked like he was going to run away with the lead, making seven birdies and two pars on the front nine. But the final nine proved more difficult for Els, who two years ago finished second to Woods in three majors.

"It's not always that you're going to shoot a 29 in a major," Els said. "You just want to keep grinding, keep playing." On the back nine I played pretty solid. I guess I just ran out of birdie holes."

"I can't be too disappointed. I came from really nowhere getting myself to the lead."

Between the leaders and Woods were three other players at 5 under: Des Smyth, Carl Pettersson and Soren Hansen.

One day after seemingly ruling himself out of another major, Colin Montgomerie moved to 4 under by shooting a 64 that was the best round of the tournament and his best round in a British Open.

Resuming his bid for a Grand Slam - all four professional majors in the same year - Woods picked up a birdie on the third hole and then birdied the par-5 fifth hole after hitting a 3-iron out of the rough just short of the green.

But he missed short birdie putts on both the 15th and 16th holes, adding to his putting woes of a day earlier.

"I hit some good putts out there that just didn't go in but today was just one of those days I had to stay as patient as possible," Woods said.

Still, Woods said he was looking forward to a weekend run and hoping the weather might worsen to make it even tougher on the field.

"If the wind ever blows it's going to be interesting," Woods said.

Nick Price, who birdied three of the first five holes, struggled to finish at 70 and joined Woods and Montgomerie at 138 after two rounds at a Muirfield links that has been relatively tame without its famous wind.

Montgomerie opened with a birdie and kept it going. A 35-footer curled in the cup for eagle on the fifth, and he closed out by hitting a 4-iron to 12 feet on the last hole for his seventh birdie.

Each one produced an enormous cheer, just like last year at Royal Lytham & St. Annes when he led after 36 holes. He faded badly on the weekend.

"Hopefully this year I could start with a terrible 74 and go forward," he said.

Phil Mickelson was going in the opposite direction. *AP*

WOODS WATCHER: Elin Nordegren, Woods' girlfriend, watches intently during second round action of the British Open on Friday. AP

TIGER: Looking forward to a weekend run. REUTERS

Woods 'absent'

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

TIGER Woods played his most conservative golf yet in a major with rounds marked by defensive positioning in the first 36 holes of the 131st British Open.

"He was very cautious," said Arben Santos, a long-hitting low-handicapper. "He rarely used his driver in the first two rounds."

He was right. Woods seemed to be absent on Thursday and Friday. He went to his driver just twice in Round 2. His patented aggressive, power-driven play was never seen in the first two rounds at Muirfield in Gullane, Scotland.

Still, Woods opened up with a 1-under-par 70 and a 68 to enter the weekend 2 shots off the leaders, putting him in a position to achieve his aim of pocketing a historic third major from the Grand Slam puzzle.

Woods' putts had been uncharacteristically tame, an indication of his respect for Muirfield's nasty reputation to punish the bold and daring. Twice or thrice, his putts were short.

The world's No. 1 has yet to start while I was writing this last night. Thus, I dug up some history stuff about the British Open. Savor it, please?

The first Open Championship was played over three rounds at Prestwick's 12-hole course on Oct. 17, 1860, in Scotland. The event was inspired by the Earl of Eglinton and Colonel James Fairlie and, at their instigation, the members of Prestwick contributed funds for an extravagant belt of red leather adorned with silver buckle and decorations.

It was only at the beginning of October that letters were sent to leading clubs inviting them to send up to three of their best caddies, who were the first professionals, to take part in the event. Just eight men played in that first challenge and Willie Park of Musselburgh beat Tom Morris by two strokes with a score of 174. No prizes were awarded until 1873 when Park again triumphed and received £10 (about $17).

Although the following year's championship was declared "open to the whole world" the number of contestants rose to only 12, and this time Morris took the honors. He and his son, Young Tom, were to dominate the event, winning four times each by 1872.

Young Tom was awarded the belt outright after winning three in a row from 1868, achieved with ever decreasing scores. His 36-hole total in 1870 was 149—13 strokes better than any other champion's winning score. The event had always been played at Prestwick until this point, but in raising funds for a new trophy the Royal and

Ancient Golf Club and the Honourable Company of Edinburgh Golfers were invited to contribute and to stage the championship in turn. It was at this point that the famous silver claret jug replaced the belt as the Open trophy.

Muirfield, built in 1744, hosted its first of 15 Opens in 1892; amateur Harold Hilton won when the prize fund for the pros was 110 pounds (about $173).

It was not until 1894 that other venues were added to the rota and Royal St George's, at Sandwich in Kent, became the first non-Scottish club to enter the history of the Open, followed in 1897 by the Royal Liverpool Golf Club at Hoylake in Cheshire.

2ND ROUND SCORES

136—E. Els 70-66, S. Maruyama 68-68, P. Harrington 69-67, D. Waldorf 67-69,B. Tway 70-66
137—S. Hansen 68-69, C. Pettersson 67-70,D. Smyth 68-69
138—C. Montgomerie 74-64, N. Price 68-70, S. Ames 68-70, T. Levet, 72-66, M. O'Meara 69-69, T. Woods 70-68, T. Bjorn 68-70, I. Poulter 69-69
139—R. Goosen 71-68, D. Clarke 72-67, C. Pavin 69-70, L. Janzen 70-69,
W. Bennett 71-68, S. Stricker 69-70, J. Maggert 71-68, S. McCarron 71-68, I. Garbutt 69-70
140—A. Coltart 71-69, P. O'Malley 72-68, S. Cink, 71-69, P. Lawrie, 70-70, S. Katayama 72-68, S. Verplank 72-68, M. Calcavecchia 74-66, S. Garcia 71-69, G. Evans 72-68, D. Park 73-67
141—L. Mattiace 68-73, M. Ilonen 71-70, B. Estes 71-70, S. Leaney, 71-70 C. DiMarco 72-69, P. Fulke 72-69, C. Riley 70-71

Delasin 5 shots off leaders

VIENNA, Ohio—Kelly Robbins tied the course record with an eight-under-par 64 to grab a share of the lead with Beth Bader after Friday's marathon first round of the Giant Eagle LPGA Classic.

Looking to end a victory drought of more than 3 1/2 years, Robbins made two eagles, six birdies and two bogeys before thunderstorms and threatening weather delayed play for two hours, 16 minutes.

Danielle Ammaccapane and South Korea's Mi-Hyun Kim are tied for second after opening-round 65s. It's another two strokes back to 19-year-old Natalie Gulbis and South Korean rookie Jung-Yeon Lee.

Dorothy Delasin started her quest for a historic "three-peat" with a three-under 69. She was among the last groups to complete play.

The 21-year-old Delasin is trying to become the eighth player in LPGA Tour history to post three consecutive wins at the same event. ***AFP***

Gow shows way

ENDICOTT, New York—Paul Gow, at home again on a course far from his native Australia, shot a 6-under 66 Friday to sit atop a B.C. Open leaderboard clogged with relative unknowns. Gow had a two-round total of 11-under 139 on the En-Joie Golf Club course, where lightning and rain around midday Friday forced a weather delay of nearly 4 hours, 15 minutes. ***AP***

SPORTS ON TV

COMPILED BY LORENZO MANGUIAT

POOL: World Professional Pool Championships 2002, Day 8, Quarterfinals & Semifinals at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. on ESPN, Day 9, Final tomorrow at 2 a.m. on Star Sports

GOLF: PGA B.C.Open Second Round at 8:30 a.m. (r), Third Round at 4:30 p.m. on Star Sports

LPGA Wegmans Rochester International, Final Round at 11:30 a.m. on Star Sports

131st British Open Championship, Third Round at 2:30 p.m. (r), Final Round at 8 p.m. on ESPN

UAAP ACTION

Ateneo whips UST; Tams shine

GAMES TODAY
(Rizal Memorial Coliseum)
2 p.m.—UE vs Adamson (Srs)
4 p.m.—La Salle vs NU (Srs)

By Dennis U. Eroa

ATENEO used a deadly mix of inside and outside game to turn back University of Santo Tomas, 95-85, and gain a share of the lead with defending champion La Salle yesterday in the UAAP seniors basketball tournament at the Rizal Memorial Coliseum.

Bull-strong Enrico Villanueva keyed Ateneo's strong finishing kick with a thunderous slam, while Rich Alvarez and LA Tenorio iced the win with three-pointers, giving the Blue Eagles their second straight win in as many games.

Earlier, Far Eastern University rebounded mightily from an opening-day loss to La Salle as it walloped University of the Philippines, 65-52.

Playing cohesively, coach Koy Banal's charges led by as many as 26 points, 57-31, before relaxing at the end which enabled the shell-shocked Maroons to cut the final deficit.

"UST came ready to play us. Good thing, we've extended our defense and denied them good shots in the second half," said Ateneo coach Joel Banal. "Enrico proved he can hit the big shots."

Hardly impressive in its debut win over National University, Ateneo refused to be intimidated by UST's repeated rallies. Alwyn Espiritu, Warren de Guzman, Christian Luanzon and Derick Hubalde supplied the points as the Tigers kept the game close, 78-74, 4:36 left.

But Tenorio broke down the Tigers' defense with his timely passes. Villanueva scored six points underneath, while Alvarez and Tenorio's triples made it 92-80, 1:28 left. Jec Chia also performed well as he poured 14 points before fouling out in the final 5:13 of play.

Scores:

FEU 65—Sinco 12, Yabut 10, Miranda 8, Isip 8, Jones 8, Zabian 7, Rizada 6, Razon 2, Cutler 2, Santos 2, Garcia 0.

UP 52—Bravo 13, Cervantes 12, Tabigue 9, Reyes 6, Almeda 4, Santos 4, Ferrer 2, Arnaiz 2, Nunag 0, Celo 0.

Quarters: 16-9, 34-18, 57-31, 65-52.

ATENEO 95—Villanueva 21, Alvarez 18, Tenorio 17, Chia 14, Del Rosario 9, Fonacier 6, Quimpo4, Intal 4, Cruz 2,Tadeo 0.

UST 85—Hubalde 15, Baguio 14, Espiritu 12, Luanzon 10, De Guzman 7, Villamin 7, Raterta 5, Manansala 3, Manching 2.

Quarters: 22-21, 43-44, 66-64, 95-85.

SPORTSWATCH

Bates derby slated Aug. 27, 29

THE ANNUAL Richard L. Bates 7-Stag National Derby, Mandaluyong Coliseum's record-holder in terms of crowd attendance and number of entries, will be held on Aug. 27 and 29 (Tuesday and Thursday). Bates said the screening of stags will start on Wednesday, July 24, until Aug. 24. For appointment on farm-to-farm screening, interested parties may contact Bates at 0916-3156991, (046)-4140750, 824-0237 or 0916-3924512. Screening will also be held on Aug.11 and 18 at the Mandaluyong Coliseum, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Ucap rules will be followed. Stags banded by Ucap, NGBA, Migba, Balbina and GF-Ban will be accepted but subject to re-classification and legbanding. Weight limits are from 1.7 kg to 2.2 kg. Entry fee is P15,000 and minimum bet is P11,000. Meanwhile, partners Ramon Mansenares and Muroy Dolorico present the Ratratan sa Mandaluyong 7-Stag Derby on Sept. 3 and 5. Entry fee is P16,500 and minimum bet is P11,000.

Sepang mesmerizes RP driver

KUALA Lumpur, Malaysia—Zed-San Miguel-MP Turbo Team Philippines' Mike Potenciano was ecstatic when he set foot on F1's most modern race track, the Sepang circuit located south of this city, last Thursday. The multi-titled Filipino race driver could not help but admire the stunning architecture and the technically challenging features of the racing complex which mirrors Malaysia's economic stature in the region. "I was here three years ago as a spectator in the race which marked this circuit's debut as an F1 racetrack but that's nothing compared to what I experienced this morning when I drove over it for the very first time during practice," said Potenciano. Potenciano's benefactors in his AF2000 campaign are Zed, San Miguel Beer, Gulf Oil, Sonenscher Motor Racing Team, BLTBCO and MP Turbo. Potenciano's exploits in the AF2000 Series as well as the races in the AFOs series will be featured in Speed, MP Turbo's motorsports TV magazine. Speed will begin its initial telecast over ABC-5 today at 11 p.m.

Armstrong pads Tour margin

ARMSTRONG

PLATEAU DE BEILLE, France—A relaxed Lance Armstrong zipped up his bright yellow jersey as he neared victory in Friday's 12th stage of the Tour de France, and came close to zipping up a fourth straight title, just one short of the record. Continuing the amazing run of mountain wins he began when he returned from cancer to take his first title in 1999, Armstrong sprinted ahead of his rivals in the grueling final climb, and more than doubled his overall race lead. But the Texan wasn't claiming victory yet. "I don't celebrate a victory before the final lap on the Champs-Elysees," he said. Four more mountain stages, two of them exceptionally difficult, still await riders in this year's Tour. His rivals are far behind. Spain's Joseba Beloki, Armstrong's biggest challenger, trailed by nearly 2 1/2 minutes in the race standings after Friday's stage in the Pyrenees. *AP*

Genoso, Raterta arrange final

A COUPLE of battle-tested 11-year-old boys—LSM's Michael Genoso and Sports Zone's Aaaron John Raterta—scored big victories yesterday to set up a Group 2 gold medal showdown in the children's division of the ongoing Samsung Best of the Best national taekwondo championships at the Glorietta Activity Center in Makati City. Genoso, Batang Pinoy and Manila Youth Games gold medalist, crushed Pampanga's Angeli Mark Barro, 9-3, while Batang Pinoy bronze winner Raterta banked on a hard ax kick in the third round to score a standing 8-count over Pampanga's Kirby Jebone en route to a 6-2 triumph. Also making it to the finals of the tourney organized by IMG and Philippine Taekwondo Association, sponsored by Samsung and supported by Accel and 103.5 K Lite were DLS Zobel's James Ruiz de Luzuriaga and ATC's Michael Chester Panlilio (Group 1 boys), Baguio's Mark Bautista and Batangas' Rei Vincent Sambo (Group III boys), Zamboanga's Everlasting Juarez (Group 1 girls), and Batangas' Ynah Franchezca Bonifacio and Crizobelle Gayle Vargas (Group II girls). Final matches in the junior men and women and children's divisions will be held today starting at 2 p.m.

The Craic celebrates French GP

SMART Communications and Xtremeworx share co-hosting chores anew in the F1 Club Live Philippines' race day party celebrating the French Grand Prix at The Craic Irish Pub on Jupiter Street in Makati at 7 p.m. today. Smart cell phone subscribers may access information by typing F1REG <name and address> and sending this to 211 or by typing a specific request using keywords corresponding to the data being requested—e.g. a.) for Live News Updates During racedays—type F1LIVE then send to 211 b.) for race schedules—type F1SKED then send to 211. F1 Club Live members get the chance to win a brand-new Smart celfone by correctly predicting the podium cast in the "Pick The Top Three Finishers" game. Members may also win jackets, shirts and other exciting sponsor items in the raffle draws held during the race. Single race day membership to the F1 Club Live event is P300.

Cantada Center hosts 'Fistorama'

SAN Miguel's Beer's "Fistorama" today features in its main event Goerge Dico of the Bebot Elorde Boxing Stable and Daniel Mansing of Cagayan de Oro City in their six-round 122 lb duel. The bout will be supported by Vandolf Lavado of Parañaque and Marlon Galicia of the Mandaluyong Boxing Stable in another six-rounder at 128 lb. The fights were held recently at the state-of-the-art Joe Cantada Boxing Arena in Taguig, Metro-Manila in a fight promoted by Edgardo "Boy" Cantada. Fistorama is produced by Joe Cantada Sports and presented by San Miguel Beer.

Jones matches year's best time

MONTE CARLO, Monaco—Marion Jones is heading home at the top of the world again. Jones matched the year's best 100 meters time, 10.84 seconds, on a balmy Friday night in Monaco. And once she irons the wrinkles out of her start, she says she'll go even quicker. "10.84 with a so-so start once again tells me that I'm ready to run fast if I get it together, and I will," said Jones, winner of a record five medals at the Sydney Olympics in 2000. "My best is yet to come." Her time matched the year-best set earlier this month by world champion Zhanna Pintusevich-Block, who did not run in Monaco. Romanian Gabriela Szabo ran the fastest women's 3,000 meters this year, eight minutes, 21.42 seconds, breaking the European record that had stood since July 1994. *AP*

LANDO'S FISTS

Senate President pro-tempore Manny Villar (right) looks at the battle-scarred fists of former world boxing champion Rolando Navarette during the latter's recent courtesy call. Villar has filed a bill that seeks to provide benefits for professional athletes who excel in international competitions.

Manila 3 on 3 elims set July 27

GIANT sports apparel firm Nike will relive the '70s basketball era through Dr. Funk's Playground at the Glorietta Activity Center in Makati.

The activities begin on July 26, with a cocktail party to be held in honor of the local athletes and sports personalities who have continuously supported Nike through the years.

One of the highlights of the event will be the Nike 3 on 3 Metro Manila eliminations on July 27, featuring 20 qualifiers from an original list of 80 schools. The qualifiers will shoot for the remaining six slots for the National Finals to be held at the end of August.

"We're inviting everyone to the Glorietta Activity Center to experience Dr. Funk's Playground," said Nike sports marketing manager Auty Villarama. "It is the hippiest place to learn more and get a fell of basketball in the 1970s."

Major sponsor of the Nike 3 on 3—the longest running and most prestigious high school basketball tournament of its kind—is High Endurance by Old Spice. Participating sponsors are Gatorade, Absolute Drinking Water, Toby's Olympic Village, Olympic Word, Ayala Center, Royal Sporting House, SM Supermalls and SM Department Store.

BEST cagefest

EIGHT games will kick off the Milo BEST SBP/Passerelle basketball tournament at 7:30 this morning at the St. Benedict College courts in Alabang Hills.

Matches will be drawn after the opening ceremony, according to tournament director Rolly Omampo and his assistant, Monica Jorge.

MBA 5 upends Koreans

EGAY Echavez filled up the void left by Alex Compton as the MBA selection downed South Korea's Military Team, 97-92, Friday night and stayed on the hunt for the 25th Jones Cup crown at the Taipei Physical Education College Gym in Taiwan.

Starting at the point sans the injured Compton, Echavez of Cebuana Lhuillier sizzled with 22 points and ably orchestrated the plays for the Filipinos, who leveled their slate at 2-2 in the eight-team, single-round tournament.

The MBA selection, being handled by Cebuana Lhuillier coach Francis Rodriguez, is tangling with the unbeaten Great Mates of Australia (4-0) at presstime yesterday.

At 3 p.m. today, the Filipinos take on the SINA Lions (3-1) of the Chinese Basketball Alliance for their penultimate assignment. They tackle the Japanese national team candidates on Monday. ***Roy Luarca***

Off-Road 3rd leg in Cebu

EXCITING offroad action returns as the 2002 Caltex Delo 4x4 Off-Road Extreme Challenge stages its third leg on July 27-28 at the Ayala 2, Cebu Civic Trade Center, Cebu City.

More than 80 drivers from all over the country are expected to participate in this event sponsored by Caltex Delo through the National Association of Filipino Off-Roaders Inc. (Nasfor) headed by Ramon To-Ong.

Hosted by the Cebu Off-Road Club headed by president Joel Retuya, the event is expected to highlight the highly technical track designed by Elme Estrada, Ben Lapinid and Arnel Sabado, thus making it even more challenging for the participants.

Each team is composed of a lead driver, a navigator and a winchman as they negotiate the grueling obstacles of the track. The driver with the best combined times will be declared champion.

"It will be a different challenge compared to the past two legs in Davao and Mangina. Definitely, this race requires a different car setup," said To-Ong.

Team Delo skipper Noel Bartolome hopes to continue his winning streak following a successful stint in the Ormoc Off-Road Invitational on June 29-30.

BLAST FROM THE PAST

TODAY in 1990, Cosco Oben beat Marlon Dizon in a sudden-death playoff to win his second crown in the World Junior championship in San Diego, California. Also today in 1990, Bong Garcia, Mila Aquino and Myll Sto. Domingo combined for 3376 pins to take the bronze in the women's trios of the 11th FIQ Asian bowling championship in Jakarta.

Wake-up call

ONE WINNER

Edwin Villanueva

HERE'S one interesting piece from a Tondo racing fan who would like to "wake up" the "incompetent" racing stewards around.

Mr. Edwin Villanueva
One Winner, PDI

Dear Sir:

Good day!

I heard the leadership in the stewards has changed but it seems that the incompetence and the indecisiveness remain.

They still have the tendency to immediately suspend a jockey and then make fools of themselves by reversing it. For example, Val Dilema was suspended for five racing weeks but after only a week, he's now back in harness. R. M. Magcamit was also suspended for months but after only a week, he's back on board.

The stewards also seem not to know what horse (and jockeys) are out to lose. FM Raquel Jr. had a dubious (flagrantly, I think) ride atop Thundering Dunk (July 7, Sunday) but the stewards were oblivious to it. ES De Vera was thinking of everything except winning when he rode Terribly One (June 29, Saturday) but escaped unpunished. Terribly One won handily last July 12 with a weaker jockey in GC del Rosario. *Nakakagulat talaga!*

And also recently, Dragon Doding lost miserably. And the reason? This is according to the jockey himself: *Alam naman daw nila na wala talaga sa kundisyon iyong kabayo nila.* Meaning, *alam nilang wala talaga itong panalo. E, ba't itinakbo? 'Buti sana kung alam din ng mga mananaya na wala ito sa kundisyon.*

The present group of stewards it seems doesn't know, when it comes to erring jockeys and horseowners, whom to penalize and whom not to penalize. *Parang walang malinaw na* rules *na nagga-*guide *sa kanila. Parang depende lang sa* mood *(at sa taya?) ng mga* authorities *ang pagbibigay ng parusa.*

O baka naman totoo ang usap-usapan na ang mga nasususpindi lang ay iyong mga hindi nakatimbre.

God bless, Sir.

Ronaldo Mendoza
Tondo, Manila

RACING TIPS

At Santa Ana By Mr. 999

Race 1—1. Classy Babe 2. Bari Bari 3. Best of Ocean 4. Full Blast
Race 2—1. Courage Heart 2. Busanda Strike 3. Primero de Mayo 4. Boogie Shoes
Race 3—1. Anytime Anywhere 2. West Pointer 3. Jessie James
Race 4—1. Top Bullet 2. Spectacular Lady 3. Pay Check 4. Expresso
Race 5—1. Adam's Call 2. Queen Matawe 3. Fortius 4. Real Material 5. Respect the Ace
Race 6—1. Ohayo Gozaimas 2. Tatler Cover 3. Notable 4. Apple Splash
Race 7—1. Might and Power 2. Indy's Quest 3. Pick Me to Fly 4. Allusion 5. Lorna
Race 8—1. Magical Mark 2. Golden Ballet 3. Mighty Strong 4. Halo Effect 5. Cutting Edge
Race 9—1. Sharon's Cookie 2. Astuce 3. Mrs. Big 4. Coventina
Race 10—1. Mica's Magic/ Dandansoy 2. San Diego Force 3. Senor Raggaas
Race 11—1. No Compromise 2. Mr. Lucas 3. Exchange Deal 4. Count Me In 5. Silky Sullivan
Race 12—1. Strawberry Joy 2. Pro Bono 3. Hot Number 4. D Greatest 5. The Bronx
Race 13—1. Hope 2. Silver Music 3. Party Princess 4. Juan Marco 5. Spoiler
Race 14—1. Naughty 2. Secret 3. Sweet Topic 4. Big Kahuna 5. Don't Tell Me 6. Flying Strike

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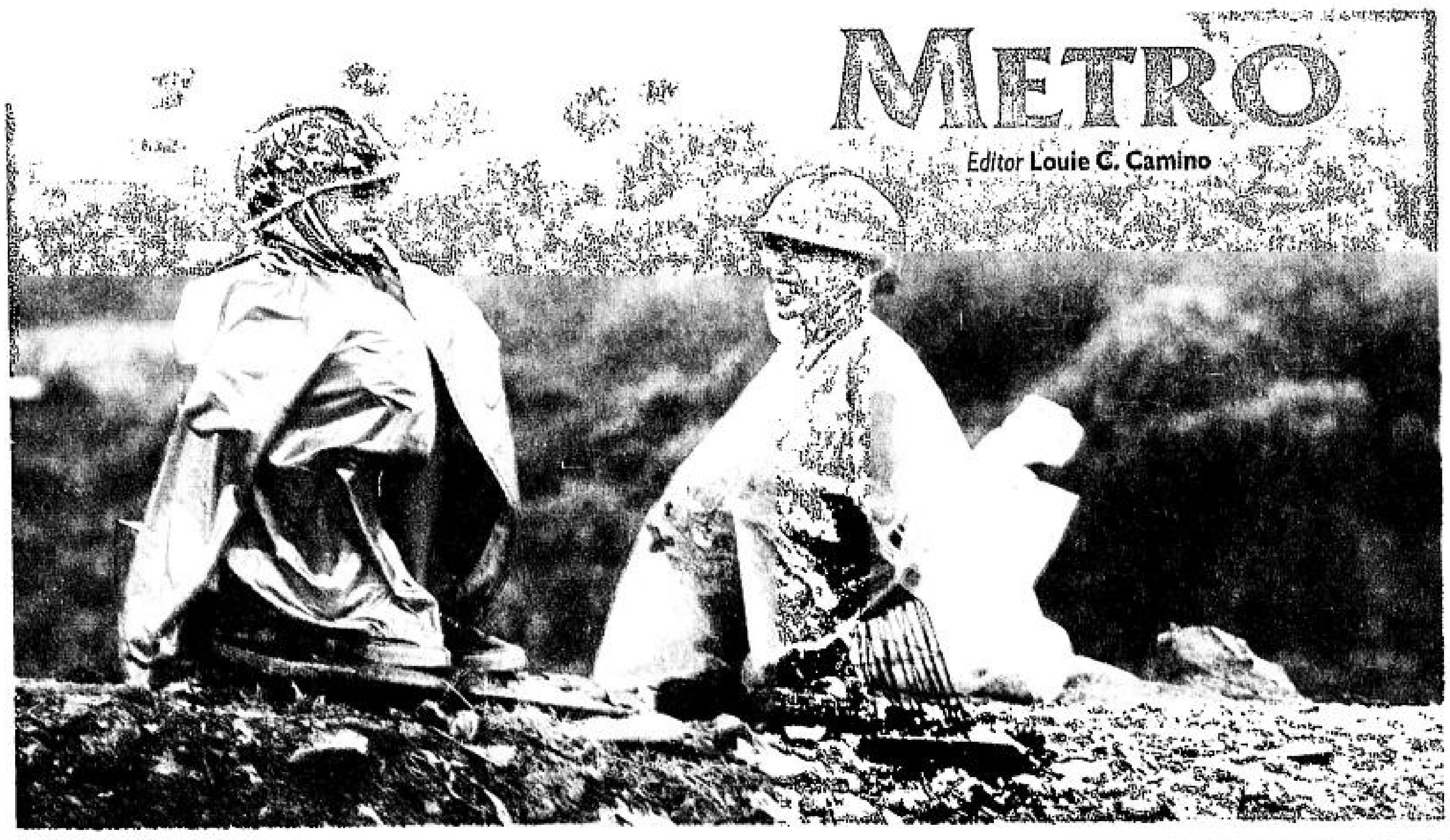
METRO

Editor Louie C. Camino



UP IN THE DUMP
It's raining and it's stinking around them, but they have protection from the lousy weather and they have each other, so all seems right with young scavengers Emelyn Amores and her brother Lemuel as they wait for garbage trucks in Payatas, Quezon City. DENNIS SABANGAN

Ex-garbage collector takes on colleagues

By Jerome Aning

MORENO

"SOME of these highly educated majority councilors just can't accept the fact that I, a poor, uneducated, former garbage hauler from Tondo, would be presiding over them."

Councilor Isko Moreno, acting vice mayor of Manila, was replying to the accusation by the city council majority that he was "too eager to get power" when he insisted on presiding over the council's session last Thursday.

"They don't want a *batang* Tondo (Tondo boy) like me leading them," he said, adding that the majority is engaging in "selfish politicking."

The first-district councilor who is also a former movie actor said the majority councilors acknowledges his position as the acting vice mayor only when he signs vouchers, reimbursement forms and other financial documents for them.

EX-GARBAGE/ A24

₱1.4 B for Edsa repair

By Armand N. Nocum

"IT WAS opened as a major highway in 1954. They even named it Highway 54. So what do you expect from a road that is more than 50 years old?"

Public Works Assistant Secretary Salvador Pleyto yesterday pointed this out as he asked the public to be patient and to bear the inconvenient potholes on the avenue that extends from Caloocan City in the north to Pasay City in the south.

That's the bad news. He also has good news.

Pleyto said plans have been drawn for a major rehabilitation of Edsa and a total of P1.457 billion has been set aside for the project.

He also asked people not to judge the competence of the engineers of the Department of Public Works and Highways by the condition of the highway.

He said the re-concreting work will cover 17.82 kilometers of the avenue. Work will start in January and will be carried out by the DPWH Urban Road Projects Office (URPO) under Director Lope Adriano.

The project involves rehabilitation of pavements and drainage structures from North Avenue in Quezon City to the other end on Roxas Boulevard in Pasay City.

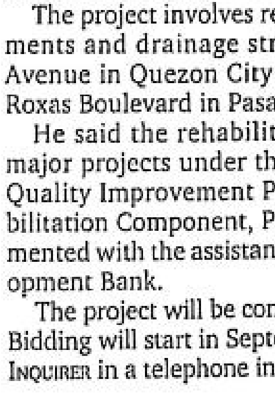
He said the rehabilitation is one of four major projects under the "Metro Manila Air Quality Improvement Program/Road Rehabilitation Component, Phase 1," to be implemented with the assistance of the Asian Development Bank.

The project will be completed in 12 months. Bidding will start in September, Pleyto told the INQUIRER in a telephone interview yesterday.

P1.4B FOR/ A20

Toll tales from the expressway

By Senen Bravo



JANE BRAVO

ENDRINAL

TALES OF THE CITY

CRISTINA Endrinal, 29, spends most of her working life on the fast lane.

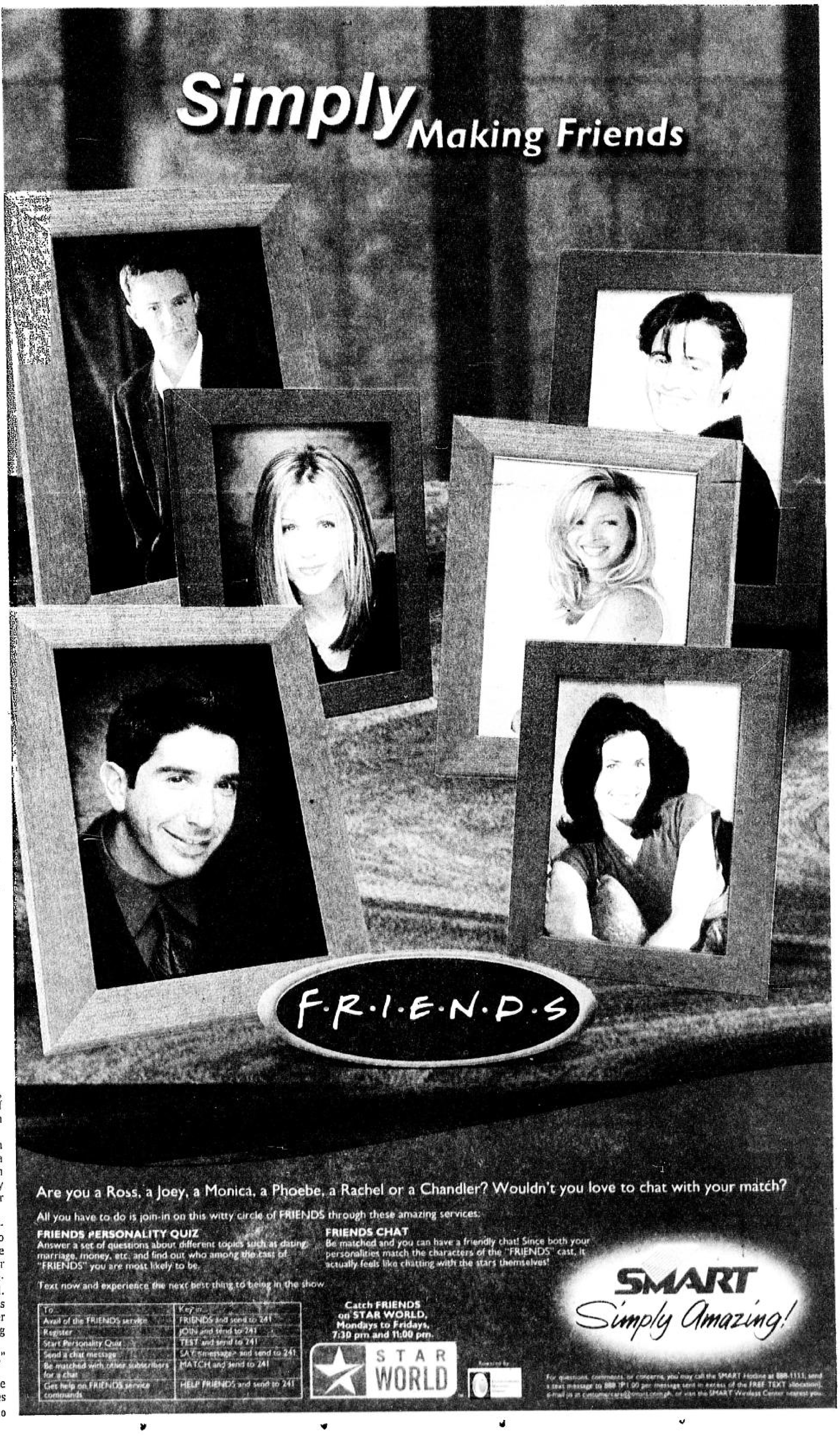
Endrinal has been a teller at the Susana Heights toll gate in Muntinlupa City since 1994. It is her first job.

"I have had the opportunity to meet politicians and movie stars," says Endrinal, who works the 6 a.m.-2 p.m. shift. A couple she had befriended at the toll way introduced her to the man who became her husband. Other toll way friends served as godmother and godfather during their wedding.

"We met in a gathering the couple set up," she recalls.

She starts the day with a smile and the much-needed patience. The smile often fades

TOLL TALES A20



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Catch FRIENDS on STAR WORLD, Mondays to Fridays, 7:30 pm and 11:00 pm.

3 guards in Nida case may get off the hook for lack of evidence

By Jerome Aning

THE CHARGES of obstruction of justice filed against three security guards in connection with the murder of movie actress Nida Blanca last November may soon be dropped due to lack of evidence.

A source at the National Bureau of Investigation told reporters that guards Ricky Alvarez, Roberto Cañeta and Diolito Molines "could be easily let off the hook."

The NBI source said the charges could be withdrawn if the three guards issued a "clear and coherent" counter-affidavit to clarify the "conflicting statements" they made earlier.

The three men, employees of the Manila-based Northern Isabela Security Agency, were assigned to the Atlanta Center in San Juan, where Blanca held office as a member of the Movie and Television Review and Classification Board and where she was found dead on Nov. 7.

The guards earlier told Blanca's relatives that the actress left the building before 6 p.m. on Nov. 6.

But when the NBI and the police questioned the guards, they denied they saw the actress leave.

The source said investigators are "hard-pressed to make the charges stick," as the guards' only fault was that they issued conflicting statements.

"There may have been no intention to mislead at all on their part," the NBI source admitted.

"Whatever conflicting statements they made can be attributed to their lack of knowledge of law or perhaps their confusion on the role they were supposed to play in the probe," he explained.

Besides, he added, investigators also cleared Molino, Cañete and Alvarez of complicity in the murder.

METROBRIEFS

Held up

RETIRED police colonel Teodoro Delarmente lost about P200,000 to four armed men on motorcycles in Quezon City on Thursday. Delarmente, 59, of Project 6, Quezon City, told policemen in Camp Karingal that as they were driving on Visayas Avenue at 11:45 a.m., four armed men on two motorcycles pulled up alongside his white Starex van (XBF-177), took out their pistols and announced the holdup. Delarmente, who was with his wife and driver at the time, had just withdrawn the money from the BPI branch on Visayas Avenue, police said. *Alcuin Papa*

Sentenced

A QUEZON City court yesterday upheld the drug conviction of former Commission on Elections employee Julaina Buiser, of Culiat, Tandang Sora, Quezon City. Buiser was found guilty of selling shabu and was sentenced in 2000 to at least eight years in prison. Court records showed Buiser was arrested while her companion, Marcelo Bunyag, was killed in a Narcotics Group buy-bust operation in 1998. Buiser filed a motion for reconsideration and asked the court to re-open her case on May 9, 2001, claiming that police had framed her. But in her decision upholding the drug conviction, Judge Theresa Yadao of QC Regional Trial Court Branch 81 dismissed Buiser's claims and maintained the policemen's version of what went on in the operation. *Agnes Donato*

Burgled

BUSINESSWOMAN Jasmin Blanco lost about P600,000 in cash and valuables to burglars who broke into her Quezon City home recently. Blanco, 37, of West Fairview, Quezon City, told the police on Thursday that she and her relatives left their house on July 10 to spend the night with relatives in New Manila, also in Quezon City. PO3 Sandino Rodriguez, said that when Blanco returned home about 5 p.m. on July 17, she was surprised to find her house had been ransacked. She lost her TV, several appliances, valuable figurines and jewelry worth about P619,000, PO3 Rodriguez said. *Alcuin Papa*

Looted

DR. FERNANDO Tejada lost his car stereo and car TV to thieves in Quezon City on Thursday. Tejada, 42, told Quezon City policemen that thieves jumped over the fence of his house, smashed the left side window of his Ford Expedition parked in his garage, and took the vehicle's stereo, CD player and TV. *Alcuin Papa*

Arrested

MORE THAN a hundred teenagers were arrested during the second quarter of the year for violating a Makati ordinance banning minors on city streets between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m. Reports reaching the mayor's office show that from April to June, Makati police and barangay officials apprehended 139 youths for loitering on the streets. Penalty for the offense is a one-night stay in police precincts. Offenders are also warned of stiffer penalties if they are arrested again. Those who were fetched by their parents or guardians were immediately freed. Barangay Bangkal had the most arrests with 41; Pio de Pilar had 37; Palanan, 31; and San Isidro, 30. *Leila Salaverria*

Stabbed

DRUNKEN men on Thursday stabbed dead a jail official who tried to break up a fight in Muntinlupa City. Insp. Roy Palo, 37, and two other Muntinlupa jail officers were on board a private jeep when they chanced upon a group of men fighting near the Maderazo videoke bar in Barangay Tunasan, police said. Palo tried to stop the fight, but three men allegedly attacked him with a knife. Palo was stabbed several times and died before he could be taken to the Muntinlupa Medical Center. Police identified the suspects as Emerson Golez, 23, his brother Eliseo, 28, and Danbar Balboa, 26. *Christian V. Esguerra*

Jailed

VICTORIO Acenas and his nephew Rustico on Thursday were sentenced to life imprisonment for raping a 19-year-old housemaid in Quezon City last year. Acenas and his nephew were each ordered to pay the victim P50,000. Court records showed that the rape took place in Barangay San Isidro, Galas, Quezon City on Feb. 2, 2001. The victim was a stay-in maid of Acenas' neighbor. *Agnes Donato*

MRT 3 extension approved

PRESIDENT Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo has given the go-signal for the construction of the 5.12-km extension of the existing 16.9-km Edsa Mass Rail Transit (MRT) 3.

A Malacañang statement said the $213.99-million rail project, to be financed and carried out by Metro Rail Transit Corp. (MRTC), earlier passed the muster of the Investment Coordination Committee (ICC) of the National Economic and Development Authority (Neda).

Socioeconomic Planning Secretary and ICC co-chair Dante Canlas recommended the approval of the MRT 3 extension project to the President during last Thursday's Cabinet meeting in Malacañang.

Canlas said the project would compete the rail transit loop by linking the Baclaran-Monumento Light Rail Transit Line 1 and the Taft-North Avenue MRT 3.

The interface would come when the MRT 3 extends from its terminal on North Avenue to Monumento, with the construction of three elevated stations at Roosevelt, Balintawak and Monumento, all along Edsa.

The extension project will be implemented under the build-transfer (BT) scheme in accordance with the Build-Operate-Transfer Law.

The project will involve civil works, system designs, a communication system, an automated fare collection system, escalators and elevators, closed-circuit television and others.

The government, under the build-lease-transfer (BLT) contract, operates the MRT 3 which runs 18 hours daily, six hours of which are peak hours.

The maximum capacity of a three-car train is about 1,182 passengers or 394 passengers per car.

P1.4B . . .

From page A19

He said that next year, the DPWH will also start the Edsa North Avenue-West Avenue interchange project, which involves the construction of two three-lane, second-level flyovers on Edsa, alongside the Metro Rail Transit (MRT) 3.

Other projects include work on the South Superhighway-Vito Cruz Extension, and on the Taft Avenue and Rizal Avenue extensions.

Pleyto said that since its construction, Edsa has only undergone expansion, not major repairs, on its inner lanes.

"We almost did a major rehabilitation of Edsa in the 1990s, but the government had no money," he said.

Through all these years, he said, the government merely filled the potholes with asphalt, which can't stand the rain.

But despite the potholes, Edsa has not done bad at all, Pleyto said.

"Although concrete roads have a life span of only 25 years, Edsa has far exceeded its life span because it was built according to international standards," he said.

Toll . . .

From page A19

away soon, but she has to do her best to maintain the patience.

"With 5,000 motorists to attend to each day, the pressure is just too much," she says.

It's all work and no play inside the tiny toll booth that is her work place. Cell phones and reading materials are prohibited inside the booth so that tellers are not distracted while working.

"Losing focus could mean a system error which could in turn cause traffic," she explains.

Security personnel frisk the tellers at the end of the day.

Last year, a male driver cursed her, thinking she was delaying him.

"I cried a lot, even when I was already home," says Endrinal. Now, she can only smile when she sees him pass by.

Susana Heights tellers like Endrinal undergo a public relations seminar every year. They have also attended seminars on identifying counterfeit money.

Another hazard of Endrinal's job is rude motorists. "They cling to your hand," she says. "Others crumple the tickets and throw them away to show their disgust."

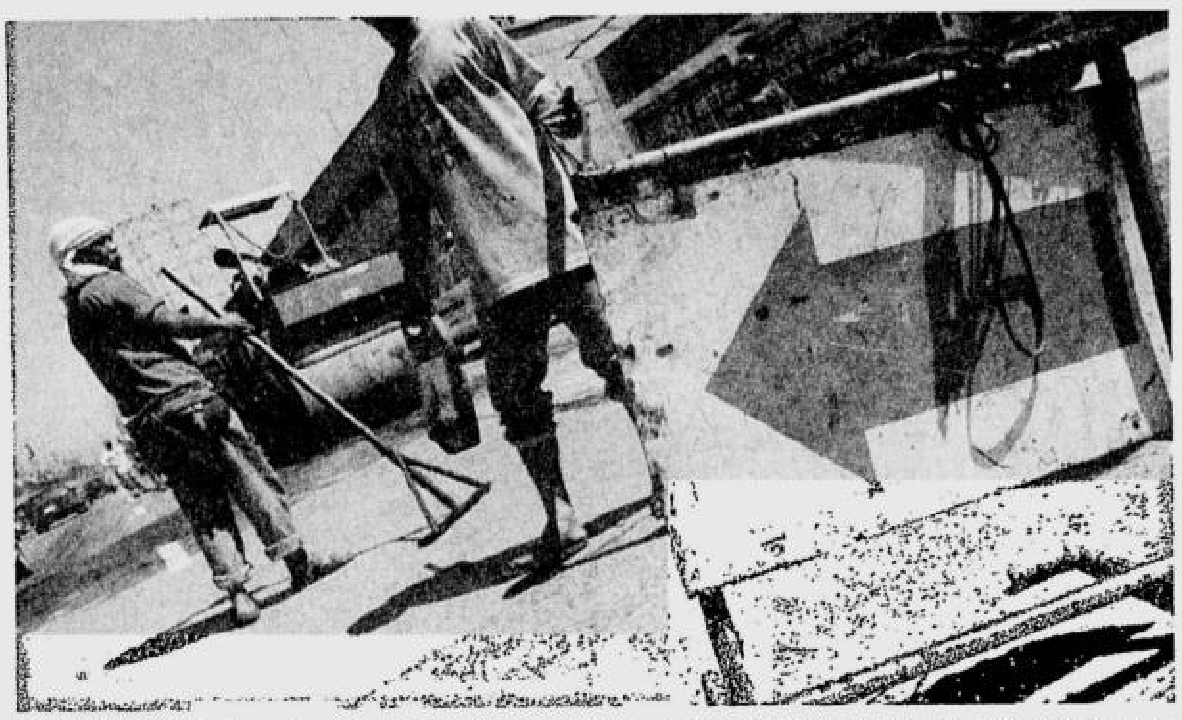
But nothing beats motorists who pay the toll fee with a large bill. "Imagine giving a P1,000-bill to pay a P1-fee," says Endrinal, who is allotted P150 in loose change at the start of the day.

Because accidents happen, a barrier called chariot guards each booth. In 1995, the chariot saved her life from a wayward cement mixer truck.

Dealing with all kinds of motorists every day, especially when toll rates are raised, is always a challenge, but she admits that this has also helped her.

"I became more assertive," says Endrinal, who chose the toll booth job over a chance to work overseas.

Rain or shine, she has to report for work, even on holidays. On her day-off, the toll collector becomes wife and mother as she takes in a movie with husband Carlito and their 3-year-old daughter Trishia at the Festival Mall in Alabang.



PUBLIC WORKS department workers fill up potholes at the Edsa-Santolan intersection in Quezon City.

DENNIS SABANGAN

Traffic code to be revised, says MMDA

By Leila B. Salaverria

A REVISED traffic code is in the offing and, once approved, it would carry stiffer penalties for violators.

Metro Manila Development Authority's Traffic Operations Center Director Ernesto Camarillo said that among the topics he discussed in a meeting with President Macapagal-Arroyo last Monday was the revision of the traffic code for the whole country.

He said the MMDA wanted to include in the traffic code jail terms for motorists caught driving without a license, driving with a fake license or driving with multiple licenses. The MMDA also suggested to the President a provision on the confiscation and demolition of seized colorum vehicles, Camarillo said.

MMDA Chair Bayani Fernando last week said there is already a draft of the code, which he will need to work out with the Land Transportation Office.

Camarillo said the matter was discussed with the President during a joint meeting of the Regional Development Council and the Regional Peace and Order Council at the Manila Hotel.

Fernando had earlier said that jailing traffic violators would be a better penalty than just fining them because it would instill more discipline in them.

He said drivers could easily pay the fines, but they would think twice about spending time in jail.

Camarillo also said the three-lane scheme proposed for Edsa would first be tried out on Commonwealth Avenue in Quezon City.

The MMDA chair earlier said that since buses tend to disregard loading and unloading areas, one whole lane would be assigned to buses which could stop anywhere on that lane.

Two of Edsa's five lanes would also be assigned to buses, Fernando said. One lane would be for buses that have unloaded passengers and would soon be moving, while the third lane would be an expressway.

Camarillo said the MMDA would begin painting lines on Commonwealth Avenue to designate the lanes. The project was recently put off due to bad weather.

He said the MMDA would make sure the designated lanes would have the proper width. Fernando earlier said that the lanes, especially the ones for cars, tend to be too wide and thus cause congestion on the streets.

Burn P100M shabu right away, says Rep. Cuenco

By Juliet L. Javellana

THE CHAIR of the House committee on dangerous drugs yesterday asked the Philippine National Police to ensure that the P100-million illegal drugs seized in Quezon City on Friday would be immediately destroyed in accordance with the new anti-drugs act.

"I am asking the police authorities to burn it right away because it might be recycled by corrupt elements," Cebu City Rep. Antonio Cuenco said in a phone interview.

Police confiscated that P100-million methamphetamine hydrochloride or shabu during a raid on a suspected drug laboratory at Varsity Village in Loyola Heights, Quezon City.

President Macapagal-Arroyo went to the scene to underscore the significance of the bust.

Cuenco reminded the police that Republic Act No. 91165, the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002, took effect July 4.

He said under this toughened law, confiscated illegal drugs must be burned 72 hours after they have been properly recorded and sampled for the filing of a case in court.

The new law also heavily penalizes loss of the illegal drugs while in police custody.

Cuenco said the PNP should be commended for the big drug bust. "I hope they keep it up," he said.

He had no comments on the appointment of Anselmo Avenido as head of the new Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency created under RA 9165.

Avenido was interior undersecretary during the incumbency of Ronaldo Puno, President Joseph Estrada's interior secretary.

"I don't know him but I would like to size him up," Cuenco said of Avenido.

He said the House committee on dangerous drugs will summon Avenido and the PNP hierarchy to a command conference on Wednesday to tackle the illegal drug menace.

Filipino in Berlin seminar on democratic governance

DAYANG

TO PROMOTE democracy and support future leaders, the Konrad Adenauer Foundation (KAF) is holding the first summer school on "Democratic Governance in the 21st Century" in Wendgraben and Berlin, Germany from July 16 to 23 this year.

Juan Dayang, founder of the Alliance for youth Solidarity and the Youth for Asia Pacific Cooperation, was invited as lone delegate form the Philippines.

The eight-day seminar, which is being held at the KAF's Education Centre Schloss Wendgraben and in Berlin, has the participation of young leaders from many countries of the world who are determined to establish democracy, the rule of law and social market economy.

Dayang has worked as program officer of the Forum of Democratic Leaders in the Asia and the Pacific, a Seoul-based organization initiated by Korean President Kim Dae-jung and co-chaired by former President Corazon C. Aquino and former Costa Rica President and Nobel peace prize laureate Oscar Arias Sanchez.

Dayang is currently a foreign service officer of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

After the seminar on "Democratic Governance in the 21st Century," Dayang will also attend an international conference on "Designing the Future along Democratic Lines—Democracy, the Rule of Law, and Social Justice" to be held at the Berlin Academy of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation on July 24.

The worldwide conference will mark the observance of the 40th anniversary of the international work of KAF.

Inquirer employee robbed in Makati Internet café

AN INQUIRER employee and several other people lost cash, cell phones and other belongings to two men who held them up inside the Ocana Internet Café along Pasong Tamo in Makati at midnight Friday.

Police identified the victims as Irene Andrea Perez, 20, an editorial assistant of the Philippine Daily Inquirer, Noel Ocana, 26, the owner of the Internet café, accounting employee Gilbert Latayan, 27, and nurse Katherine Perez, 22.

Reports show that the four were inside the Internet café, which was open until 1 a.m., when two men came in and poked a knife at them. The two men took their cellular phones, bags and money from the café's cash register, the victims said.

Policemen were able to identify one of the suspects as Roberto Mendoza of D. Gomez Street, also in Makati, but they have not arrested him. The other suspect remains unidentified.

Perez said she was busy checking her e-mail and only became aware of the heist when one of the suspects took her bag and she turned to ask him why. She said she did not notice what was going on because the suspects operated quietly and did not announce what they were doing but only pointed a knife at them.

Leila B. Salaverria

Ex-garbage collector takes on colleagues

From page A19

"On money matters, they recognize my authority, but when I preside over the council, which is my duty, they don't want me," he said.

Moreno-Francisco Domagoso in real life-yielded to Councilor Alejandro "Kim" Atienza, the president pro tempore, after the majority questioned the former garbage collector's calling the session to order.

The majority councilors contended that according to the council's internal rules, Councilor Atienza should be the presiding officer.

Atienza assumed the chair but he turned it over to Councilor Casimiro Sison, a lawyer, while the debate raged.

The majority floor leader, Councilor Marlon Lacson, argued that Moreno could only be presiding officer if he was designated as such by the majority or if he was the elected vice mayor.

"Maybe he (Moreno) should wait for that to happen," Lacson said. "Huwag naman tayong masyadong sabik sa kapangyarihan (Let's not be too eager to get power).

"There is no room for anarchy in this council," he added. "This is a collegial body governed by rules that should be observed by its members at all times."

Another majority councilor, lawyer Juan Miguel Cuna of the fifth district, said the council's internal rules are backed by the Local Government Code.

"This is not a parlor game and we are not playing musical chairs," he said. "Every councilor is expected to abide by the rules."

But Moreno maintained that as acting vice mayor, he had in fact assumed all the powers exercised by the elected vice mayor, including presiding over council sessions.

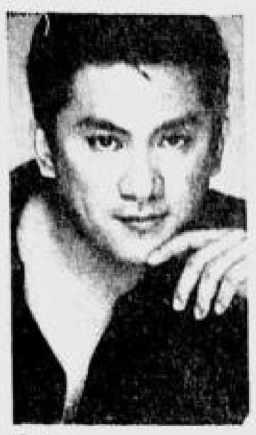
"I was just doing my duty as the acting vice mayor," he told the Inquirer. "I did not ask for this, it was thrust at me by the people who voted for me and made me the number one councilor, who should take the place of the vice mayor in case of his absence."

Two weeks ago, Moreno asked the Department of the Interior and Local Government to rule on the issue. The DILG has not issued a decision.

Vice Mayor Danilo Lacuna is on official leave and returns on July 24. Moreno is expected to make another attempt to preside over the July 23 session.

Moreno called the councilors to session thrice-on July 4, 9 and 16-but the majority boycotted all three sessions, forcing him to adjourn these for lack of quorum.

He questioned the "continuing recess" declared by the majority from June 27 to July 18. He pointed out that the city charter provides that the council should hold sessions twice a week



Seña

Robert releases debut album

FOUR years after wowing international audiences and gaining worldwide acclaim as The Engineer in "Miss Saigon," Robert Seña reaffirms his career move as a solo artist with the release of his self-titled debut album under Star Records.

"It was a rewarding experience," says Robert.

The musical chameleon was able to tap the talents of such prolific composers as Vehnee Saturno, Louie Ocampo, Gary Granada and The Dawn's vocalist Jett Pangan.

The album's eclectic mix will probably surprise most of Robert's ardent fans who tend to label him as "nothing more than a fearsome tenor."

While not exactly bordering on extremes, Robert's repertoire finds him shifting from the serious, somber tones of "Our Father" and "I Believe" to the more plaintive and brooding textures of a Stevie Wonder ballad.

Robert also treads on easy-listening OPM terrain with "Kool Ka Lang" and "Sana'y Maramdaman," and even rekindles nostalgic fervor with his versions of "Windmills of Your Mind" and "Ultimo Adios."

"The choice of songs reflects the actor/performer in me," Robert says.

Despite the accolades he earned during his "Miss Saigon" stint, Robert feels it's high time to break out of that "classical" mold.

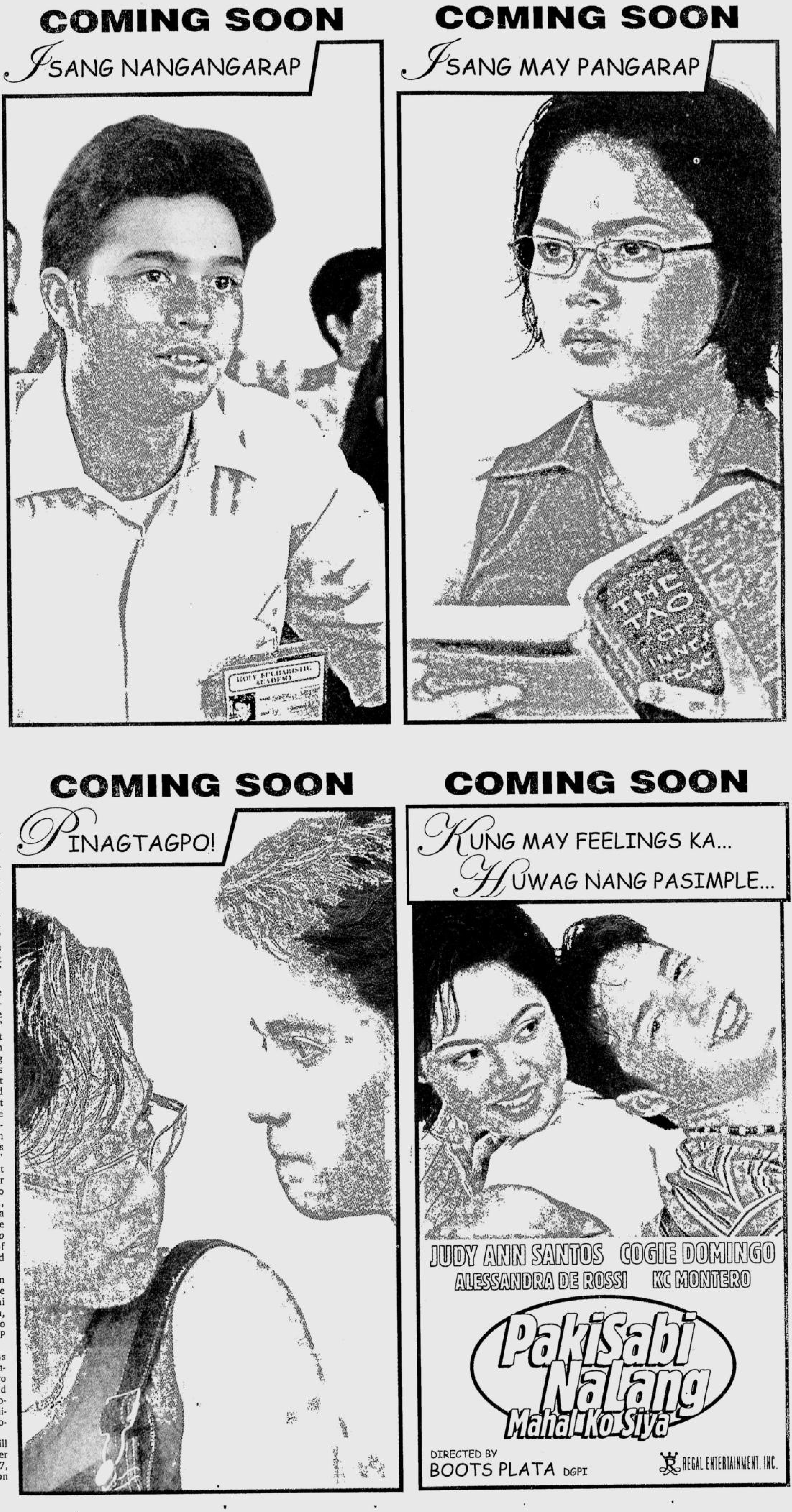
"My dream is to be able to transform myself and the audience in a different realm," Robert avers. "But it gets frustrating when I see my dreams being done by artists abroad, like what Robbie Williams did at the Royal Albert Hall in London where he did an all-standards repertoire with a full orchestra. That's my longtime dream."

This month, Robert is busy rehearsing for an original Filipino musicale, "Bayan, Isang Paa na Lamang," where he plays a *katipunero* during the time of Andres Bonifacio and Emilio Aguinaldo.

Also performing in the musical are Gamaliel Viray, Jai Sabas Aracama, Eileen Cura, Bimbo Cerrudo and the UP Concert Chorus.

The musical was written by the late National Artist Maestro Lucio San Pedro and directed by Paul Morales, with musical direction by Chino Toledo.

Performances will be at the UP Theater from July 25 to 27, and at the CCP on Aug. 3.



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ENTERTAINMENT

Editor **Louie C. Camino**

Assunta gets respite from sexy roles

By Marinel R. Cruz

PAIN is still mirrored in the eyes of sexy star Assunta de Rossi whenever she talks about her former love, cager Rommel Adducul.

The 19-year-old star, who is said to be set to marry 41-year-old Rep. Jules Ledesma, said Rommel treated her like a criminal after she started accepting sexy movie roles.

"*Hindi ako kriminal. Naghubad lang naman ako, hindi pumatay ng tao* (I am not a criminal. I only took off my clothes, I did not kill anyone)," Assunta said in a recent press conference at ABS-CBN, the pain and the pleading very clear in her voice. What people see in her movies, she said, is not what she is in real life.

She said Rommel was very displeased with her bold move and he made sure she knew about his displeasure. "It was the way he talked and acted," she said. "It was as if he loathed me."

Rommel's displeasure started when Assunta bared her body in her launching picture, Regal Entertainment's "Red Diaries," directed by Maryo J. de los Reyes. It was followed by three more sexy films, "Sisid," "Hubog" and "Kilabot at Kembot."

Baring flesh, despite Rommel, has paid off for Assunta somehow. She won best actress citations from several award-giving bodies for her performance in Joel Lamangan's "Hubog."

The actress again made entertainment news for days after her admission of a May-December love affair with Ledesma, a congressman from Negros Occidental. They are set to marry in January 2004 despite the disapproval of her mom, Nenita Schiavone and her younger sister Alessandra de Rossi.

She said that unlike the basketball player, the congressman respects and supports her decisions. She makes sure to ask what the widowed lawmaker thinks before closing any movie deals.

"He knows the law and he's into financing so he handles money well," she said.

But she quickly added that her mother still manages her earnings. "My role is to just check where my money is going," she said.

After appearing in four R-18 films, Assunta is glad and relieved to be in a youth-oriented movie with 10 other popular young stars. It is a breather from the heavy roles she has been playing.

In Star Cinema's "Jologs," Assunta is feisty, opinionated law student Izza, paired with a very conservative Dominic Ochoa. On their first date, Dominic's character takes her to a prayer meeting.

"I relate to my character," Assunta said. "People judge her based on what they see on the outside, not what's in her heart."

With her in "Jologs" are John Prats, Vhong Navarro, Jodi Sta. Maria, Michelle Bayle, Diether Ocampo, Patrick Garcia, Baron Geisler, Onemig Bondoc and Julia Clarete.

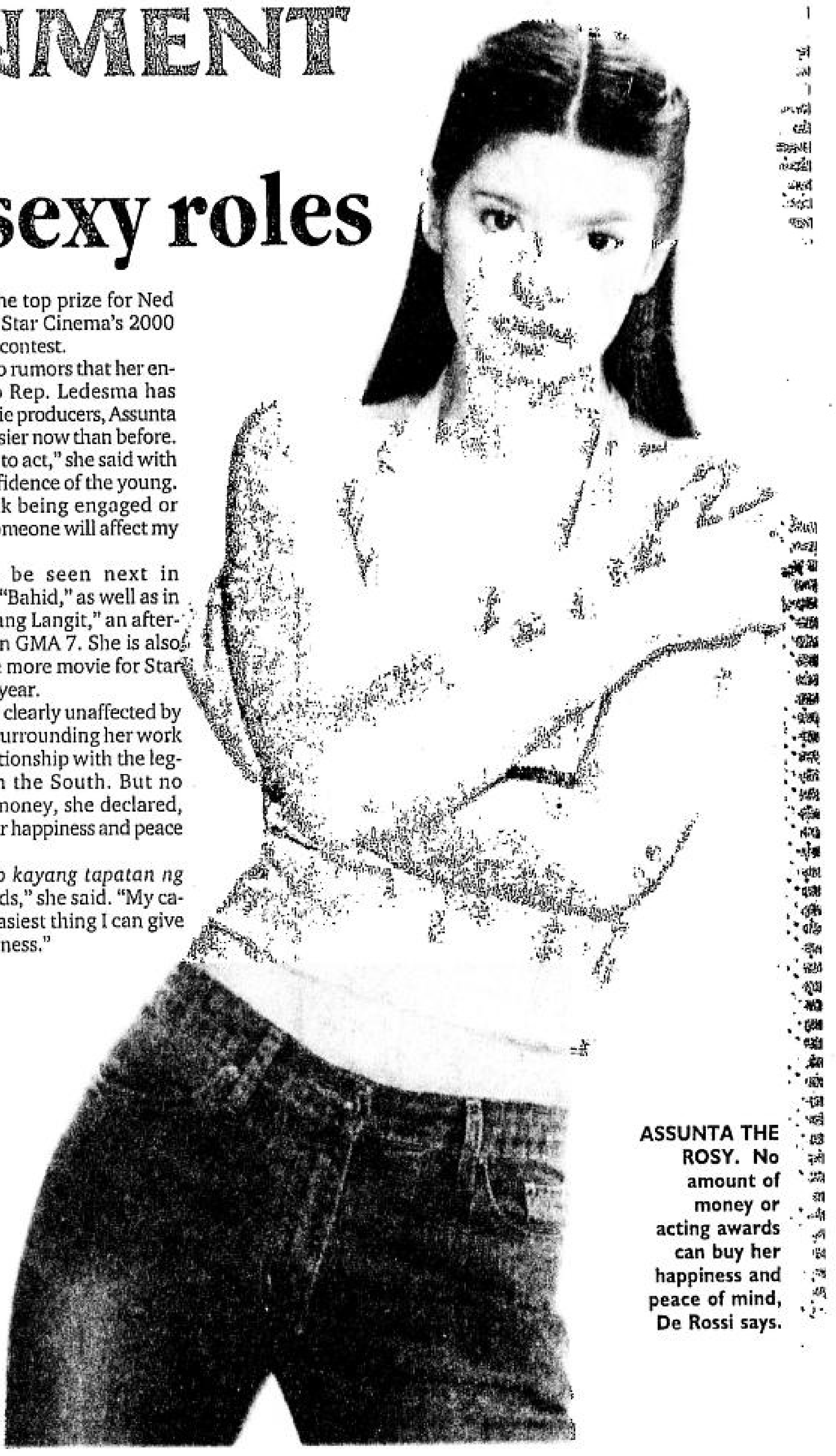
Gilbert Perez directs "Jologs," which won the top prize for Ned Trespeces in Star Cinema's 2000 scriptwriting contest.

Contrary to rumors that her engagement to Rep. Ledesma has spooked movie producers, Assunta said she is busier now than before. "I know how to act," she said with the total confidence of the young. "I don't think being engaged or married to someone will affect my work."

She will be seen next in Lamangan's "Bahid," as well as in "Hawak Ko ang Langit," an afternoon soap on GMA 7. She is also set to do one more movie for Star Cinema this year.

Assunta is clearly unaffected by the rumors surrounding her work and her relationship with the legislator from the South. But no amount of money, she declared, could buy her happiness and peace of mind.

"*Hindi ito kayang tapatan ng* acting awards," she said. "My career is the easiest thing I can give up for happiness."



ASSUNTA THE ROSY. No amount of money or acting awards can buy her happiness and peace of mind, De Rossi says.

Angelina Jolie and Billy Bob Thornton split

LOS ANGELES—The intense marriage of Hollywood stars Angelina Jolie and Billy Bob Thornton is on the rocks, after two years of expressing their love through tattoos and blood-filled amulets.

"Sometimes you don't see things coming," Jolie said of the apparent breakdown in her marriage in an interview with US Weekly, to be published in the magazine's July 29 edition.

"We're not divorced yet. We're going through a difficult time. I'm not sure what will happen," added the Oscar-winning star of films like "Girl, Interrupted," "Lara Croft: Tomb Raider" and "Life or Something Like It."

Jolie said she and Thornton, who was nominated for two Oscars this year, had been living in separate hotels for four months and had not seen each other since June 3, the day before her 27th birthday.

"I'm angry. I'm sad," Jolie said. "It's a very difficult and sad time. It was a real deep connection, a deep marriage, so it's not that simple to say this or that one thing caused the problems."

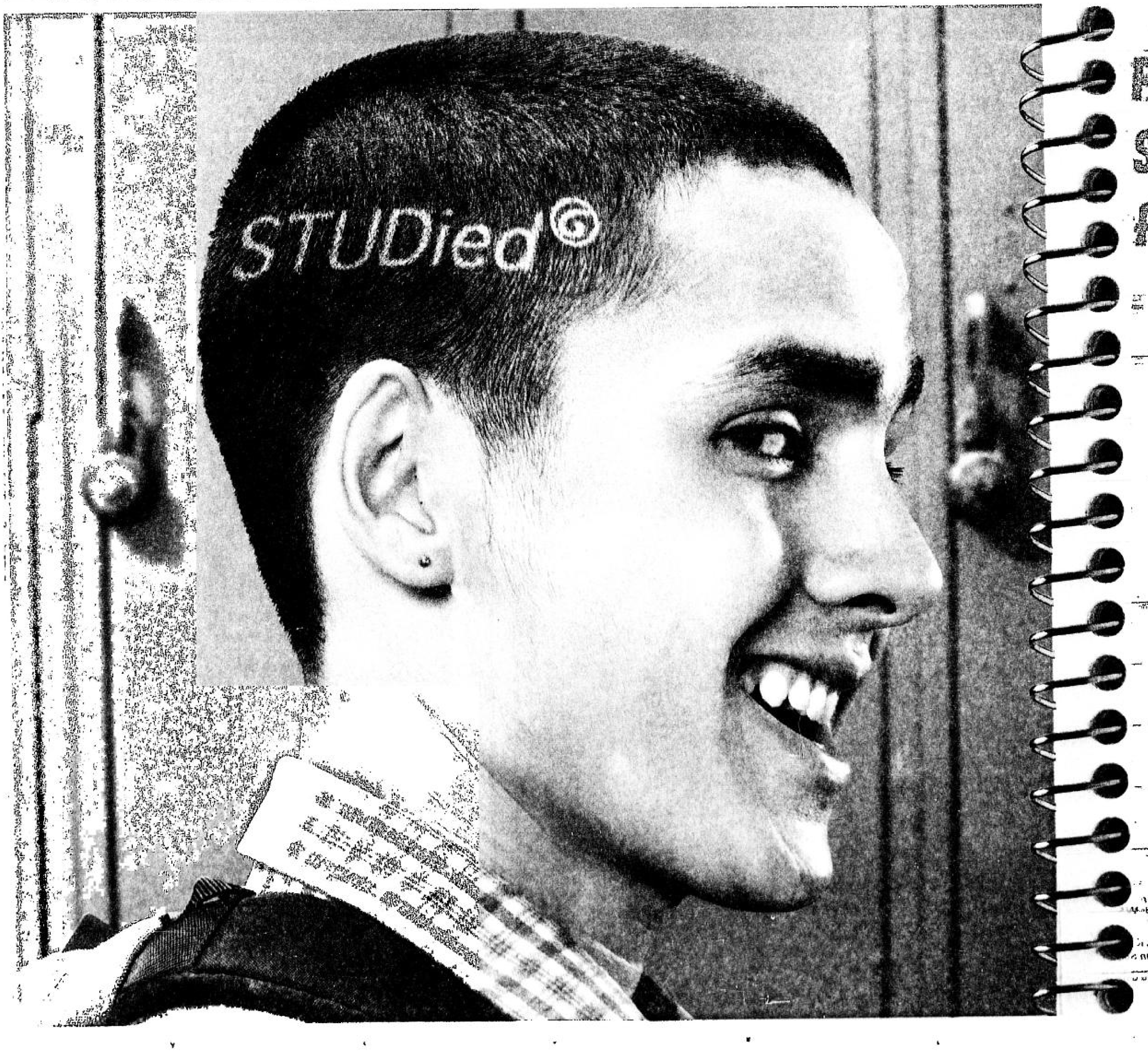
The pair had been heralded as Hollywood's hottest couple, appearing deeply in love when they appeared in public and when they announced their adoption of a Cambodian baby boy, who they named Maddox, in March of this year.

But despite the public shows of togetherness, Thornton, 46, went on tour with his band immediately after the boy arrived in the United States in June and the two have not seen each other since, Jolie said.

"He's focused on his music career," said Jolie. "I'm focused on my baby."

Thornton's publicist declined to comment on the reports of the breakup, while Jolie's representatives could not immediately be reached by telephone.

AFP



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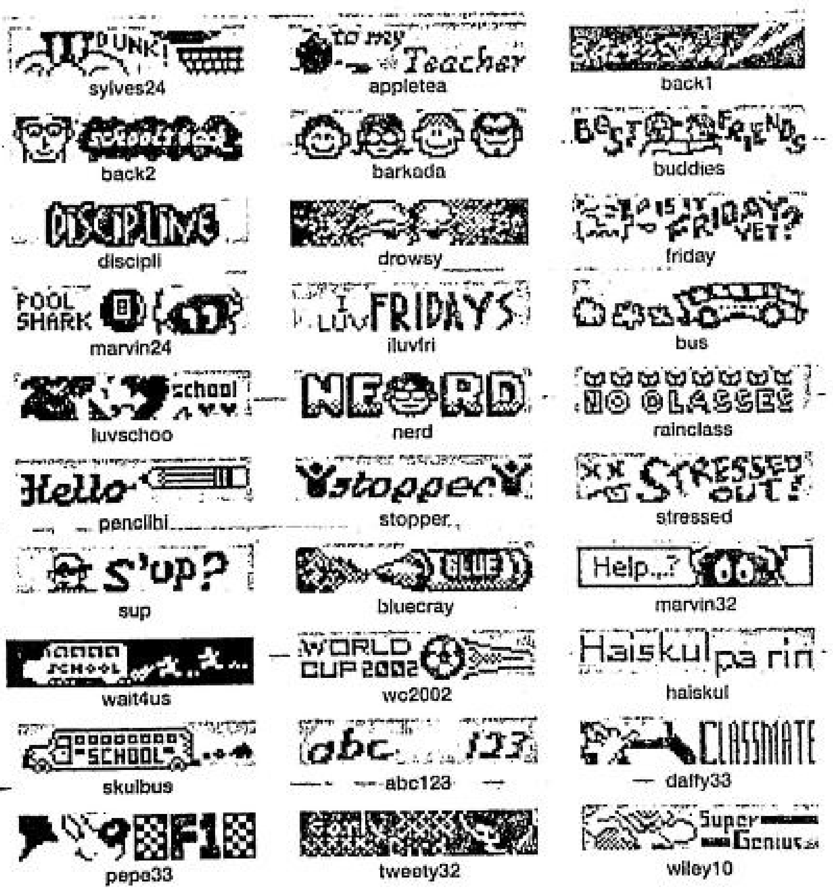
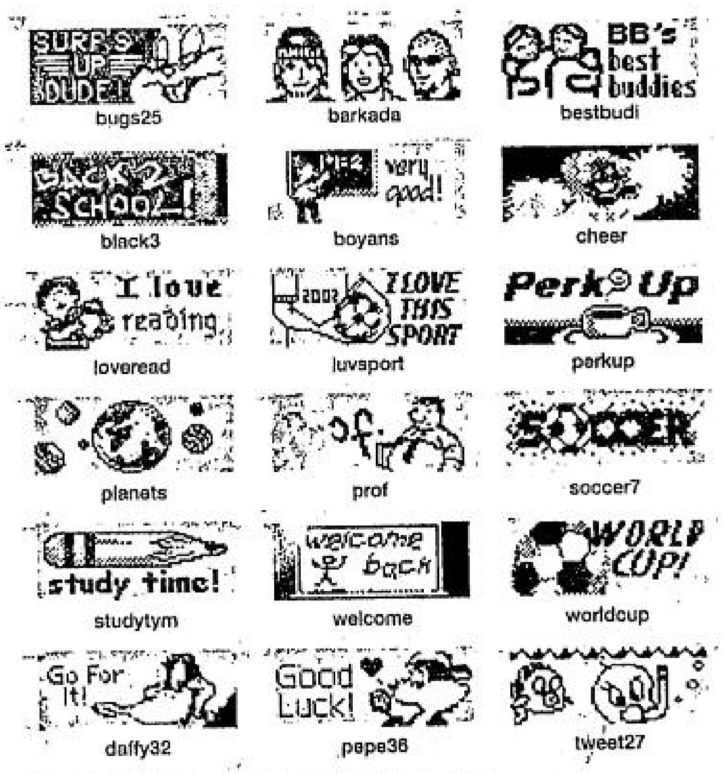


text cards



ring tones

TITLE	KEYWORDS	TITLE	KEYWORDS
BECAUSE I GET HIGH	igetnigh	KAIBIGAN	kaibigan
DONT LET ME GET ME	dontletm	LOVE FOOLOSOPHY	fooloso
BUTTERFLYZ	butterf	MANIC MONDAY	manicmon
CARTOON HEROES	cartoonh	NEVER EVER	neverever
CHILL OUT	chillout	OLD MACDONALD	olmcdnld
DON'T CALL ME BABY	dontcall	ON THE RADIO (REMEMBER THE DAYS)	onradio
FREAKY FRIDAY	freakyfr	RUGRATS	rugrats
FRIENDS	friends	SESAME STREET	sesame
FRIENDS	friends2	SHOO FLY DON'T BOTHER ME	shoofly
GETTING TO KNOW YOU	getng2knw	SHOULD I STAY OR SHOULD I GO	shouldi
GOOD TIMES BAD TIMES	gudbadtm	SKIP TO MY LOU	skiplou
GOT THE LIFE	gotlife	THE ENTERTAINER	entertnr
I WILL SURVIVE	iwillsur	RED ALERT	redalert
IT'S A HARD KNOCK LIFE	hrdknock	WE GO TOGETHER	go2gethr
JEOPARDY THEME	jeopardy	WANNABE GANGSTAR	gangstar

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Threatening rather than upbeat mood

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

WHEN we heard that the animated feature, "The Powerpuff Girls," had gotten a cautionary review from the Cinema review group, we decided to see for ourselves what the reviewers were concerned about.

Most film for children get a "For General Patronage" classification, so why did this one get a "PG-13" classification from the MTRCB, and high technical but low "*usapang moral*" marks from Cinema?

The film narrates how the popular Powerpuff Girls were "born:" Professor Utonium created cute; little, bug-eyed Bubbles, Blossom and Buttercup in his lab. Inadvertently, however, "Chemical X" was mixed into the brew, endowing the little girls with superpowers.

At first, they didn't know what they were capable of, so things got out of hand at school, and later in the city itself, and many buildings were damaged.

The city's residents turned against the girls and put the professor in jail. That's when an evil monkey, Mojo Jojo, made his move to take over the planet. So did a host of other ambitious chimps, who gave the girls a tough time after they got over their depression and decided to save the world.

The movie started pleasantly enough, but the introduction of the girls' superpowers and the villains they had to fight reduced the production to little more than a series of battle scenes.

This gave the movie a threatening rather than upbeat mood that the little children in the audience didn't seem to know how to handle. Most animated films for children elicit enthusiastic and loud reactions from young viewers, but the kiddie audience of "The Powerpuff Girls" wasn't reacting enthusiastically. There seems to be some truth to the fear that the movie's "fighting" stance was too threatening for them to find enjoyable.

This is too bad, because the film has some positive things going for it, like inspiring insights into the importance of life, family, service to the community and courage, good technicals, and crisp editing and plot progression.

But the movie's destructive bent is too negatively powerful to be compensated for by these plus points. Even adult viewers find it harsh instead of exciting, and the kids are thoroughly swamped.

Another contributing factor is the movie's "sophisticated" use of color or, more properly, uncolor. A number of sequences are done in shades of gray or sepia, and this further saps the production of the bright visual appeal that kids go for.

In trying to be modern and edgy, it looks like the people behind this animated feature forgot that they were making a movie *for children*, who have to be brightly, lightly entertained, inspired, and protected from material and treatments that threaten their vulnerable sensibilities.

Even Superman, another "nice" character who had superpower, was never as unintentionally lethal as the girls are in this movie.

Come to think of it, the Powerpuff Girls come off more like Frankenstein's monster, another artificial creation of a well-meaning scientist that got out of hand because its maker didn't know the extent of his creature's potential to inadvertently harm people. What a disturbing realization.

Roberta Rust in concert

THE Piano Teachers Guild of the Philippines present pianist **Roberta Rust** is concert at St. Cecilia's Hall, Manila at 5 p.m. today, July 21. Master classes on July 22-24 follow at the UST Conservatory of Music, UP College of Music and SSC School of Music, ending with a workshop on July 28 from 9 to 4 p.m. at St. Cecilia's Hall.

Rust's concert features **Beethoven**'s Sonata No. 24 in F-sharp Major, Op. 78, **Chopin**'s Sonata No. 3 in b minor, Op. 58; and a selection of works by **Brahms**, **Schumann** and **Villalobos**. Call 521-2593.

RUFFA Gutierrez with parents Eddie and Annabelle, brothers Rocky, Raymond, Richard, Richie Paul and Elvis.

Ruffa's starry, starry bash observes liquor ban

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Leah Salterio

THE RAIN fell hard last Saturday night but the stars were out, a lot of them.

The stars joined **Ruffa Gutierrez** in a belated birthday bash hosted by hairdresser **Ricky Reyes** at the latter's posh residence in Valle Verde, Pasig City.

Ruffa looked every inch a beauty queen in a deep-necked, sleeveless fuschia skirt and blouse ensemble by **Nono Palmos**. Middle of last week, she jetted in from Los Angeles to celebrate her birthday.

Whatever show biz commitment they had that night was probably called off due to the bad weather, so the stars had a chance to party with Ruffa.

Ruffa, the image model for "Gandang Ricky Reyes," welcomed a lot of well-wishers that night, proof that she remains well-loved in local show biz despite her decision to work abroad and live in Los Angeles.

Her family members were in complete attendance—parents **Eddie Gutierrez** and **Annabelle Rama**, brothers **Elvis, Rocky, Richard, Raymond** and **Richie Paul**.

Seated at the long table with Ruffa and Ricky were show biz couple **Richard Gomez** and **Lucy Torres, Rudy Fernandez, Paolo Bediones, Cher Calvin, Rufa Mae Quinto, Joyce Jimenez** and **Nadia Montenegro.**

In a huddle at another table were talent managers **Douglas Quijano** and **Shirley Kuan, Jean Saburit, Butch Francisco,** and **Karla Estrada**.

Regal Films matriarch **Lily Monteverde** arrived before midnight.

Gretchen Barretto caused a stir when she came with live-in partner **Tonyboy Cojuangco.** Her diamond-studded necklace was probably the envy of most of the other girls in the party that night.

Surprise! The guests abided by the liquor ban that weekend, in view of the barangay election the next day. After midnight, even if guests still wanted more wine, Annabelle Rama simply said sorry and did not send the family driver to the nearest wine shop.

'Sesame Street' daily

LAST Monday, a non-working holiday, I saw my son watching "Sesame Street," which airs every morning on GMA 7.

It's good to note that following generations of kids who grew up on the well-loved children's program, "Sesame Street" is still on the boob tube.

I'm not sure whether GMA 7 is airing updated episodes, but I noticed that "Sesame Street" has more animation. You don't just see Grover hamming it up with Elmo or Oscar the Grouch on the playground. In a cute and amusing animated clip, Grover water-skis even as he also sings.

The other popular characters like Big Bird, the elephant Mr. Snuffleuppagus, and the ever upbeat duo of Ernie and Bert make "Sesame Street" appealing not just to kids but also to adults.

Up to this day, my generation can still sit before the TV set and watch the adorable company on "Sesame Street" with fondness.

Other children's program have come and gone, but "Sesame Street" remains a popular TV fare.

Reader writes

LYRICIST **Markel Luna** reacts to our column about the album-launching concert of **Ayen Munji**

RUFFA'S/ A25

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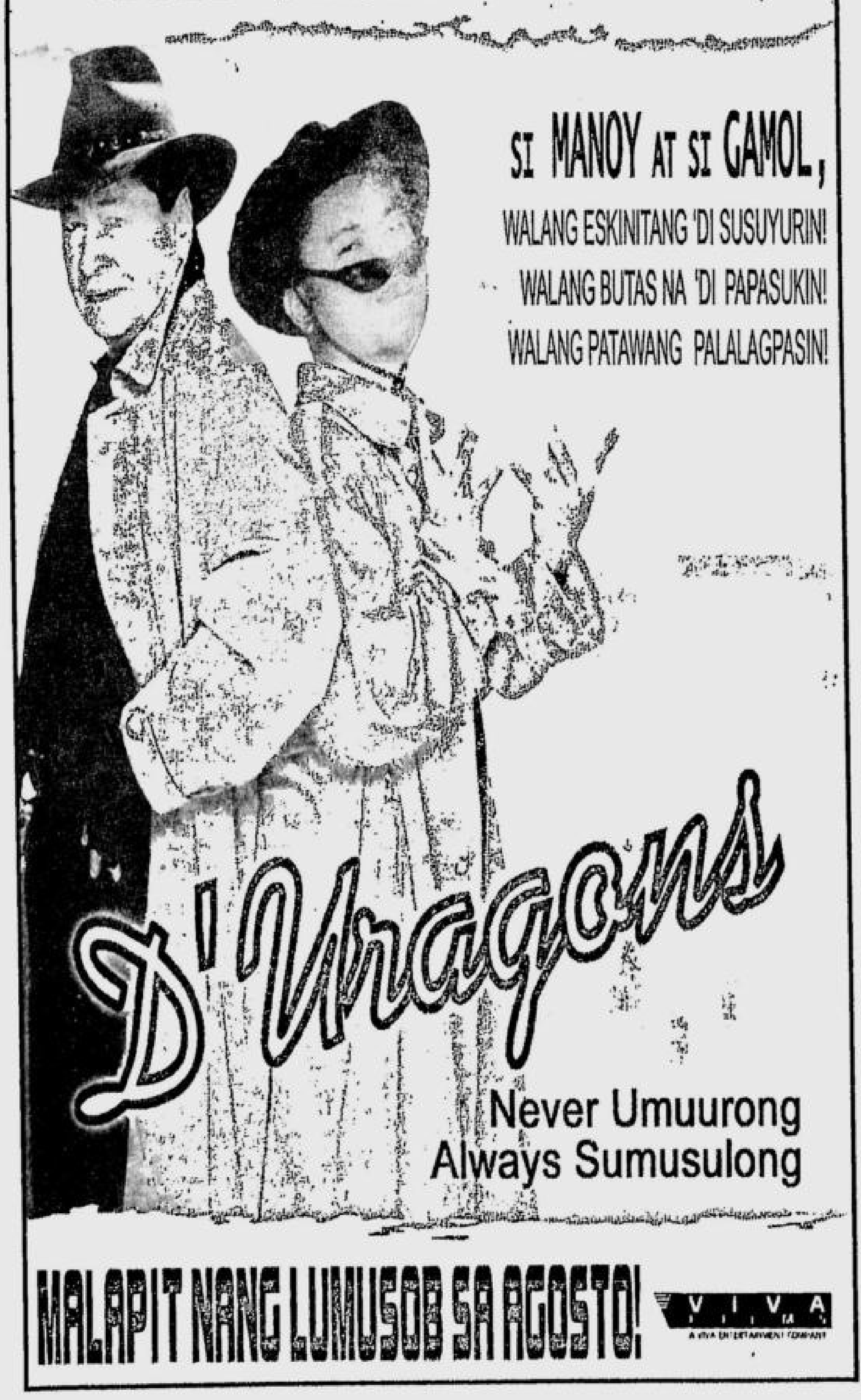
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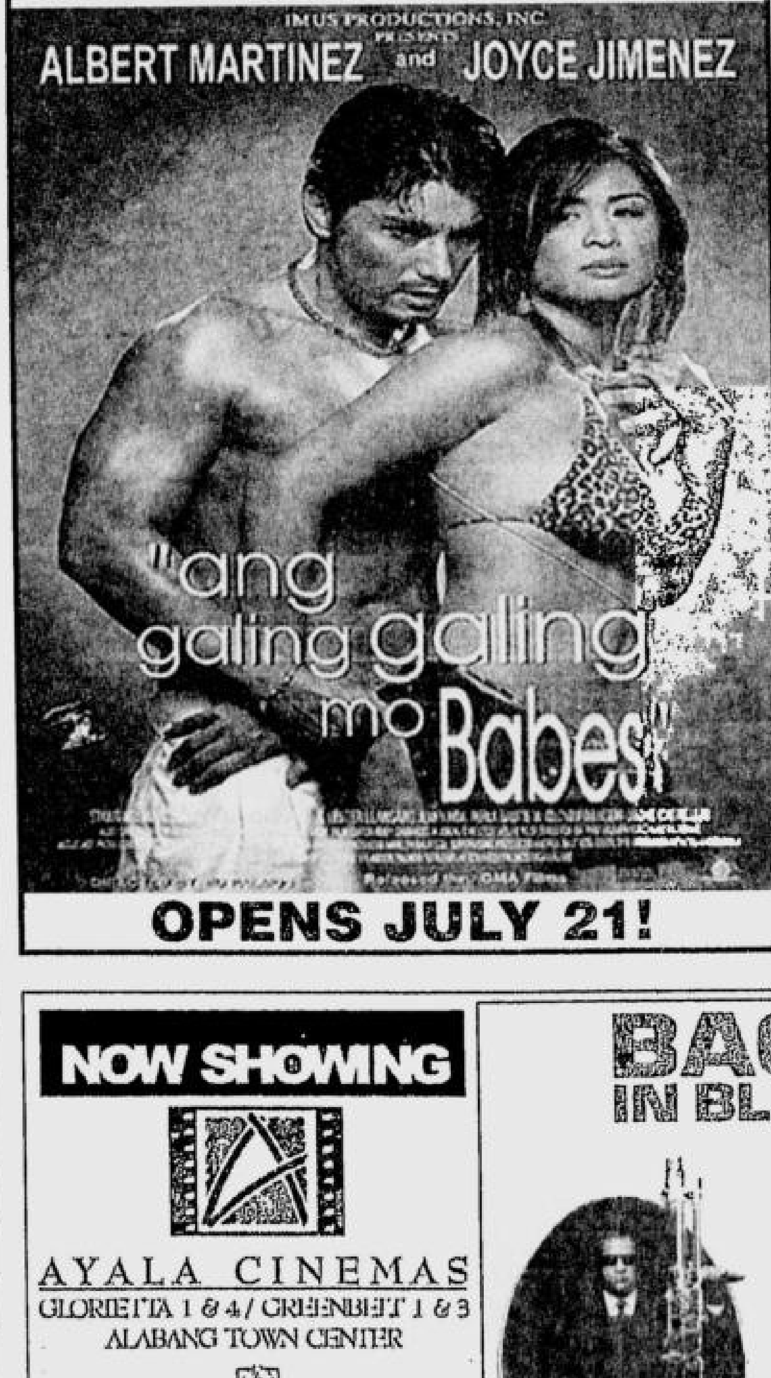
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BACK IN BLACK
MIIB

GRETCHEN Barretto and Tonyboy Cojuangco with Ruffa and mom Annabelle.

Ruffa's . . .

From page A24

Laurel (June 2, 2002).

I wrote that The CompanY vocalist **Reuben Laurente**, who was in the audience that night, wrote "Higher and Brighter," one of the beautiful cuts in the album.

Luna points out Laurente created the music, while he (Luna) wrote the lyrics.

"I believe that the lyricist should also be given credit," Luna says. "A song wouldn't be complete without the music and the lyrics unless the composition is meant to be an instrumental piece.

"Furthermore, I think that the lyrics of a song are equally important, for they contain the message that the song wants to convey.

"Unfortunately, this is not the first time that the lyricist is overlooked. Generally, the person who does the music is the one who is called the composer. I strongly believe that the lyricist also deserves the title. After all, as I said earlier, the music and the lyrics make up a composition.

"I believe that I speak not only for myself, but for most (if not all) lyricists, as well."

THEATER MOVIE GUIDE

ARANETA CENTER THEATERS 911-3101	
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-1	FOREVERMORE
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-2	KAPALIT
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-3 (DDS)	MEN IN BLACK II
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-4 (SDDS)	HIGH CRIMES
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-5 (DTS)	MEN IN BLACK II
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-6 (DOLBY)	THE THIRD WHEEL
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-7 (DOLBY)	MINORITY REPORT
FARMERS PLAZA-1 (DOLBY)	KAPALIT
FARMERS PLAZA-2 (DOLBY)	MEN IN BLACK II
FIESTA CARNIVAL	
NEW FRONTIER	
MANILA	
EASTERN	
MAXIM	CLOSED
MIRAMAR	BUKANG BIBIG / BUSINESS WITH PLEASURE
ODEON	MEN IN BLACK II
ODEON-2	COLLATERAL DAMAGE / BATAS NG LANSANGAN
ROBEN	KAPALIT
TANDEM-1	SUGAT
TANDEM-2	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
TIMES	HART'S WAR / SCORPION KING
QUEZON CITY	
ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	CLOSED
ACT-4	CLOSED
CORONET-2	ORIGINAL SIN
QUEZON-1	KAPALIT
REMAR	KAPALIT
REMAR-2	SUGAT
NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA	
A	KAPALIT
B	
C	
MANDALUYONG CITY	
SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA-1	POWER PUFF GIRLS
CINEMA-2	MEN IN BLACK II
CAINTA RIZAL	
STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	FOREVERMORE
CINEMA-2	KAPALIT
CINEMA-3	HIYAS SA PARAISO
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	MEN IN BLACK II
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	BIG FAT LIAR
CINEMA-6	ALL ABOUT BENJAMIN
CINEMA-7	SUM OF ALL FEARS
CINEMA-8	HIGH CRIMES
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	MEN IN BLACK 2
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	MEN IN BLACK 2
CINEMA-11 (SDDS)	THIRD WHEEL
CINEMA-12	POWER PUFF GIRLS
CINEMA-14	MINORITY REPORT
CINEMA-15	KAPALIT
LORES	
CINEMA-2	CLOSED
CINEMA-3	CLOSED
POWER PLANT CINEMA	
CINEMA-1	THIRD WHEEL
CINEMA-2	MEN IN BLACK 2
CINEMA-3	MEN IN BLACK 2
CINEMA-4	HIGH CRIMES
CINEMA-5	POWER PUFF GIRLS
CINEMA-6	MEN IN BLACK 2
UNIWIDE METROMALL	
(LAS PINAS)	
CINEMA-1	
CINEMA-2	
CINEMA-4	
UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL	
(PARANAQUE)	
CINEMA-1	ALIPIN NG TUKSO
CINEMA-2	THE OTHER SIDE OF LOVE
CINEMA 4	ALAMID

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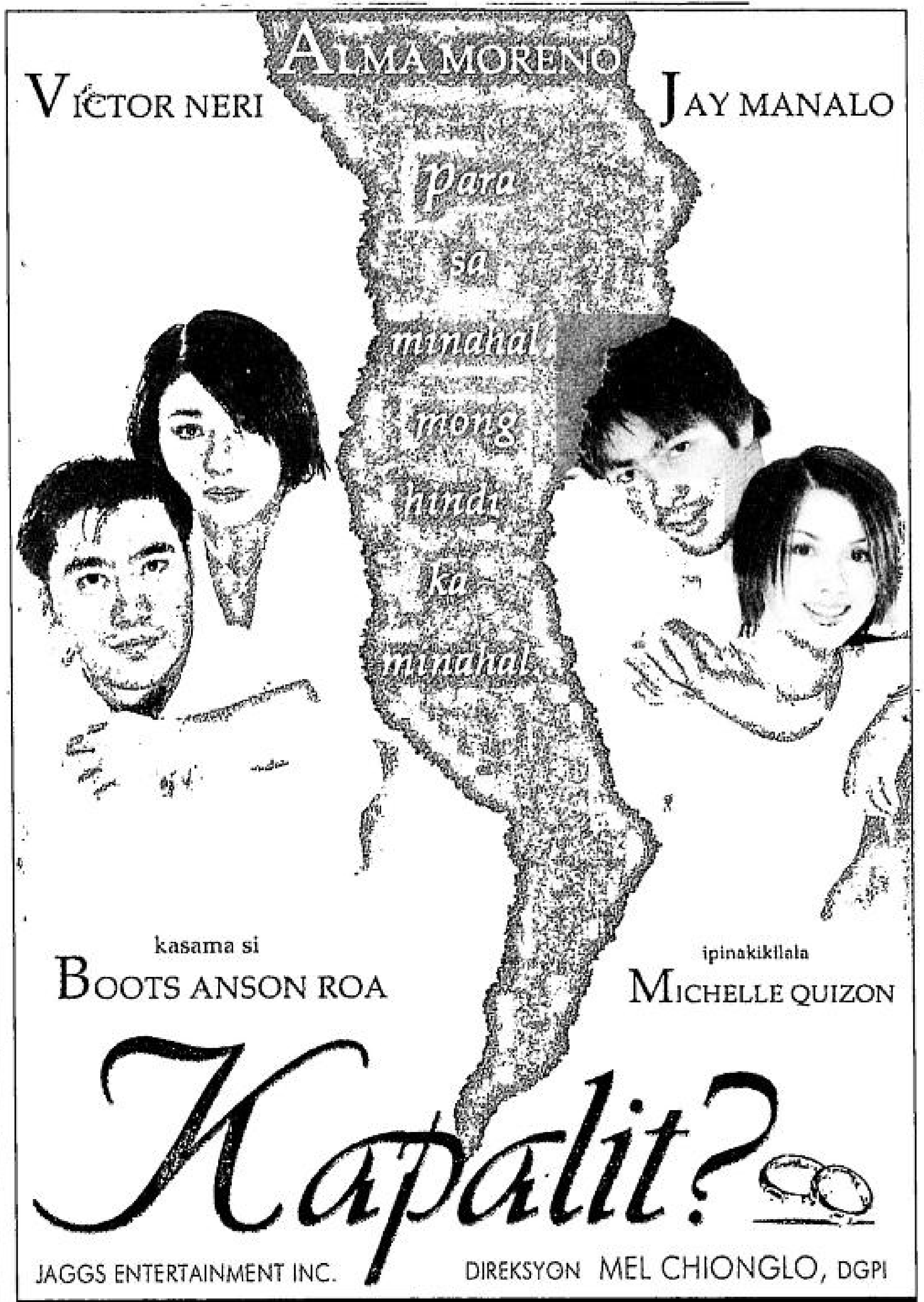

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1 MEN IN BLACK 2	1 MINORITY REPORT	1 THE KING IS ALIVE	1 MINORITY REPORT 11:20, 2:20, 5:20, 8:20, 11:20	1 MEN IN BLACK 2
2 THE THIRD WHEEL	2 THE THIRD WHEEL	2 CLOSED FOR RENOVATION	2 MEN IN BLACK 2 11:20, 1:20, 3:20, 5:20, 7:20, 9:20, 11:20	2 MEN IN BLACK 2
3 KAPALIT	3 MEN IN BLACK 2 11:40, 1:50, 4:00, 6:10, 8:20, 10:30	Onstage	3 AMELIE 1:00, 3:35, 6:10, 8:45, 11:20	3 THE THIRD WHEEL
4 POWERPUFF GIRLS	4 LIFE OR SOMETHING...	HOTDOG & BOYFRIENDS JULY 20, 26 & 27 9 - PM	4 POWERPUFF GIRLS 12:20, 2:10, 4:00, 5:50, 7:40, 9:30, 11:20	4 POWER PUFF GIRLS
	5 POWER PUFF GIRLS		THIRD WHEEL 12:25, 2:35, 4:45, 6:55, 9:05, 11:15	5 HIGH CRIMES
	6 MEN IN BLACK 2			
	7 HIGH CRIMES			

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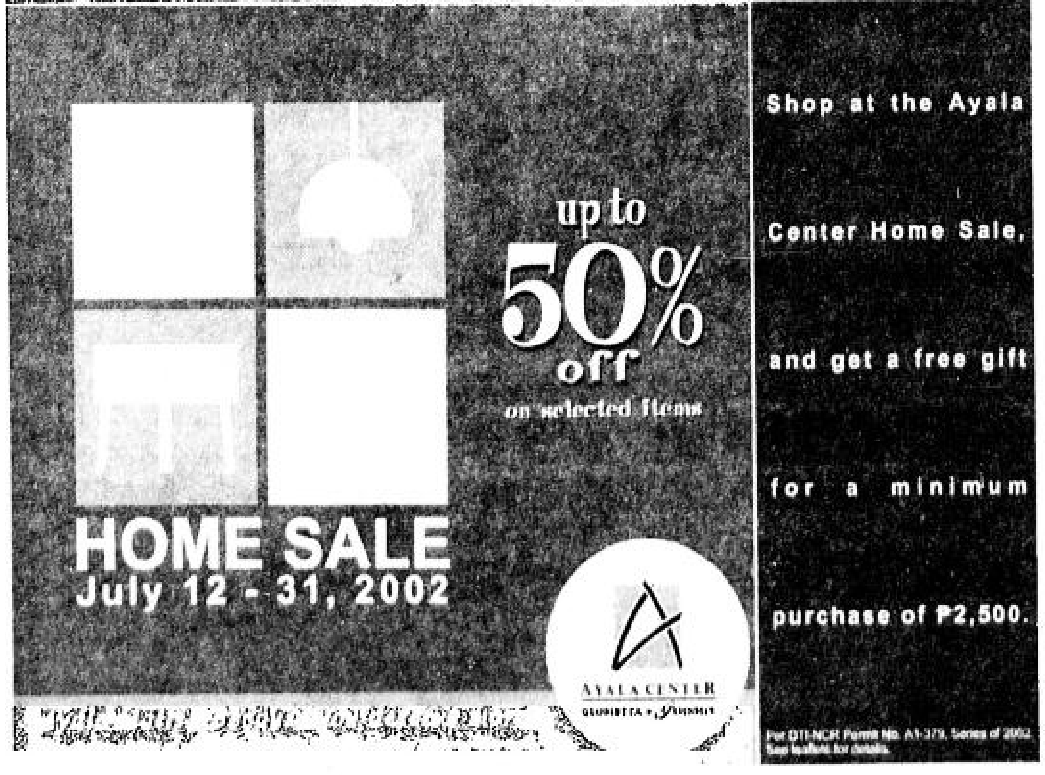

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THIRD WHEEL - P 13 11:50, 1:50, 3:50, 5:50, 7:50, 9:50	MEN IN BLACK 2 - P13 10:50, 12:50, 2:50, 4:50, 6:50, 8:50,	MEN IN BLACK 2 - P 13 11:30, 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30
HIGH CRIMES - P13 12:20, 2:45, 5:10, 7:35, 10:00	POWER PUFF GIRLS - P 13 12:20, 2:10, 4:00, 5:50, 7:40, 9:30	MENI IN BLACK 2 - P 13 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10

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P 13

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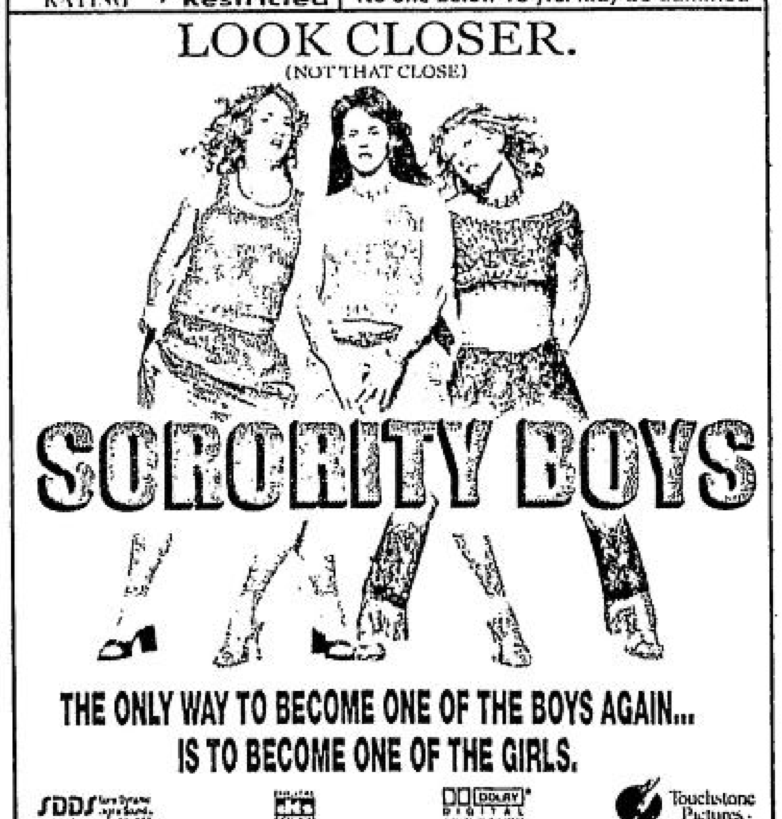

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SundayBiz
Editor Raul O. Marcelo ● Business Features Editor Margie Quimpo-Espino

Folk dancer rises to become one of RP's top lady execs

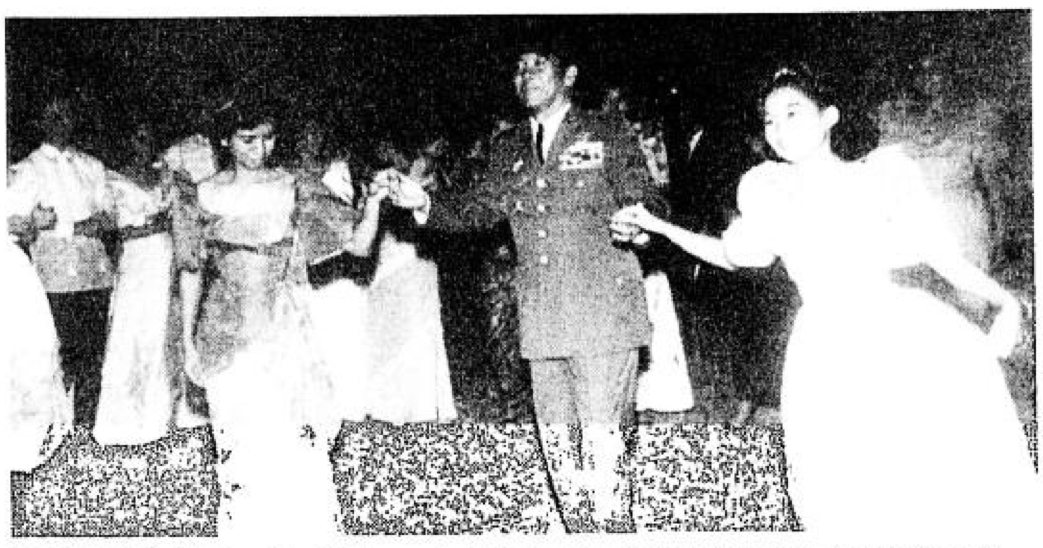
By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

ZORAYDA Amelia Capistrano-Alonzo, longtime head of the state-run Pag-Ibig fund and now chief executive of the Small Business Guarantee Finance Corp., has become used to attending meetings where she is the lone woman during her career in the business and government sectors.

FIRST JOB

Dear Mely,
All the best.

MOMENTOUS occasion when Alonzo was appointed president of Pag-Ibig Fund by President Corazon Aquino in 1989.



WALTZING with President Sukarno in Jakarta who invited Bayanihan to perform all over Indonesia in 1964. Alonzo is at right.

But it was not always so. She actually started earning money by doing one of the most feminine professions—dancing.

Alonzo tells SundayBiz that she had just finished her Economics degree at the Philippine Women's University in 1966 when fellow Bayanihan Dance Co. member Cecilia A. Lim (known today as broadcaster Cheche Lazaro) invited her to teach eight elementary school students Philippine folk dances.

"The children were supposed to attend the International Children's Village program, so they had to know some folk dancing. I taught them for about a week and I was paid P600, which was a good sum during those days," Alonzo says.

Alonzo says she remembers the amount because she used it to help pay for the intimate family dinner that she and her six siblings put together to celebrate the silver wedding anniversary of their parents.

"We even had a dress made for my mother. We felt very proud because we were able to afford a nice dinner at Madrid Restaurant, which was a very posh place at that time," Alonzo explains.

Her dancing/teaching career was short-lived, however, because she was soon sent by her parents for a year-long study at the Unibersidad de Madrid, again in Economics. As she says, she was a "kept daughter" once again.

It was not her first time abroad. Alonzo says she was just a sophomore in college in 1964 when the Bayanihan troupe went on a coast-to-coast tour of the United States.

"We first stopped in Hawaii and then we went on a bus tour that went from the West Coast to the East coast. The finale was in New York where the Bayanihan performed at the newly opened Lincoln Center, making the Philippine dance troupe the first foreign company to perform at the center. It was a very big honor for the Philippines," she says.

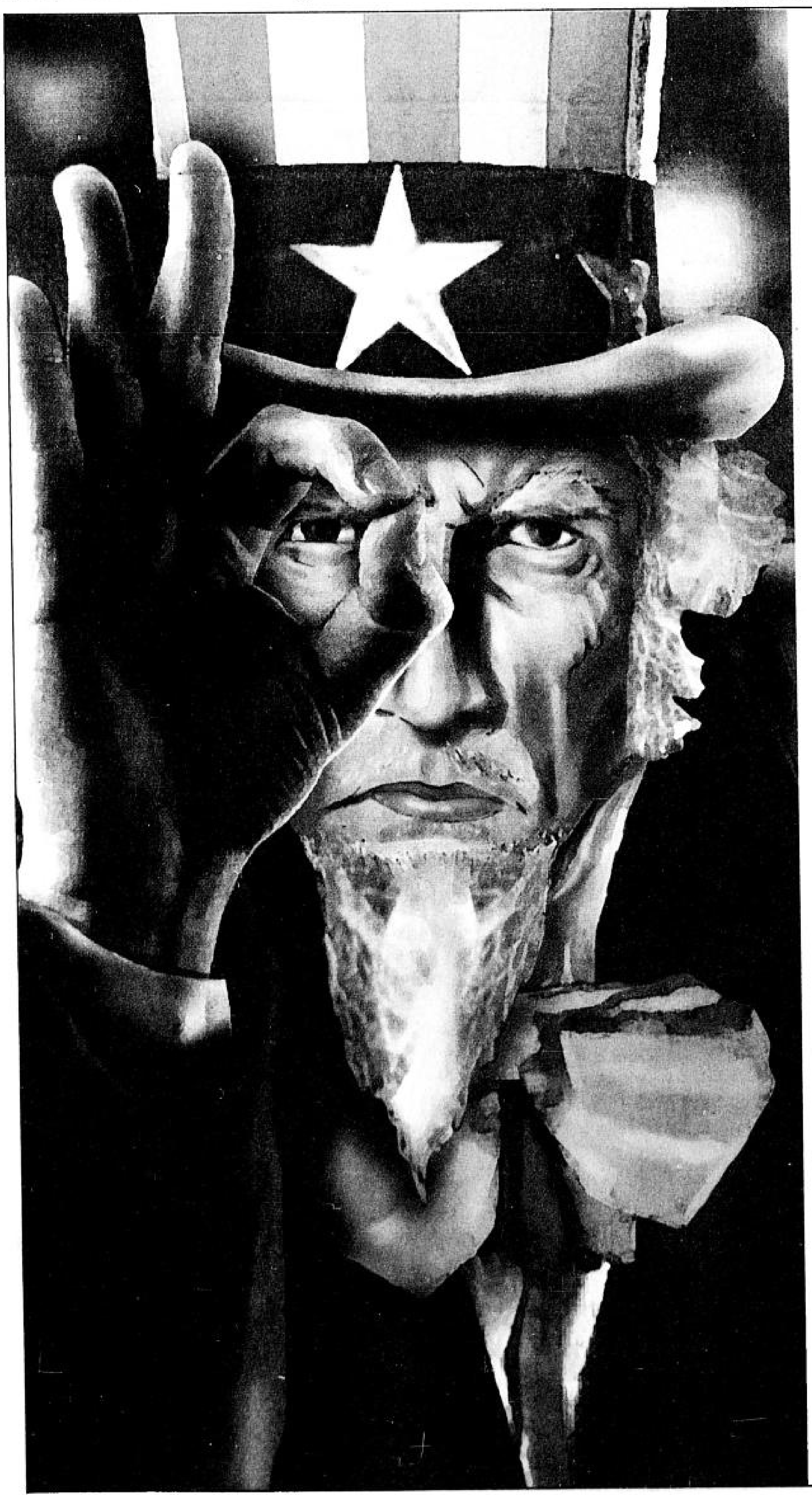
ALONZO today as chair and CEO of Small Business Guarantee and Finance Corp.

The experience also broadened her mind, made her aware of the events in other countries. The trip helped ease the adjustment that she had to make when she went to Spain for her studies.

When she came back from Spain in 1967, she continued with her studies, enrolling in a master's course in Economics at the University of the Philippines as a Ford Foundation scholar.

"There was no question that I would go for postgraduate studies because my family really put importance on education. All my aunts and uncles on both sides of the family went to postgraduate studies. My mother was a pharmacist and my father was a mining engineer, one of the first graduates of Mapua," Alonzo says.

FOLK/ B2



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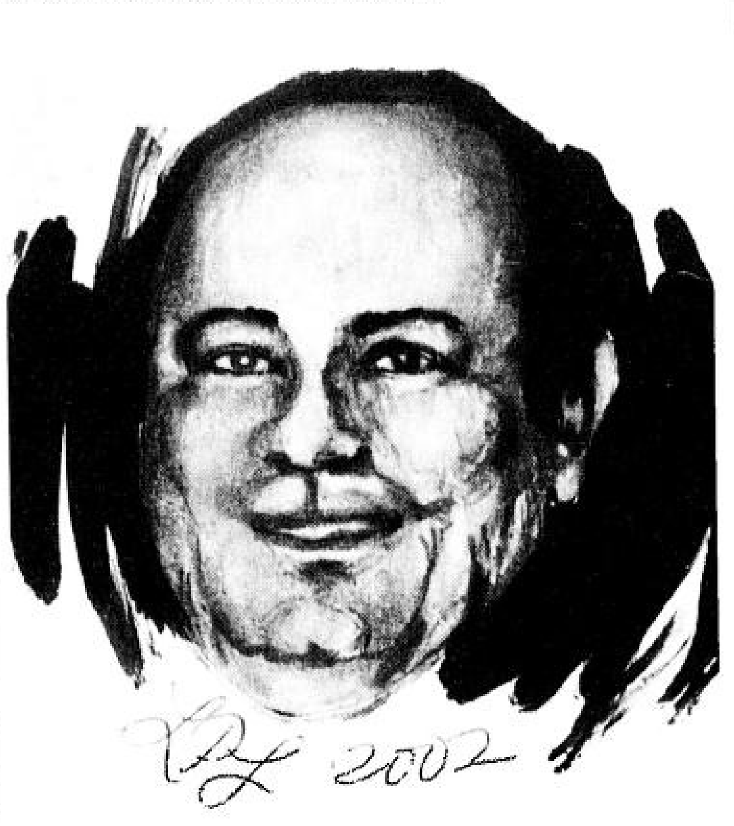
IN YOUR FACE BY L.P. LEVISTE



THE BUSINESS community was rife with talks that Enrique "Endika" Aboitiz, was going to lose his position as CEO of WG&A, the country's largest shipping firm. When asked about it, his reply was "Definitely not! I am still CEO." The move behind his ouster was reportedly caused by two others shareholders of the shipping firm—the Gothongs and the Chiongbians.

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AUT ATIC DEBIT ARRANGEM
IGNING CER ONY
JUNE 17,

AN Automatic Debit Arrangement (ADA), which is a collection facility recently launched by Banco de Oro Universal Bank's (BDO) transaction banking group, has been signed between BDO and Meralco. The ADA allows clients of Meralco to pay their bills via automatic debit to their enrolled BDO account Shown during the signing of agreement are (from left): Sofronio Ortega, senior manager, Meralco; Manolo Fernando, senior manager/assistant treasurer, Meralco; Jesus Francisco, president, Meralco; Nestor V. Tan, president, BDO; and Alvin Ortiz, senior manager-corporate banking, BDO.

'Positioning' potion has not lost its magic

"Positioning: The Battle for Your Mind
—20th Anniversary Edition"
By Al Ries and Jack Trout
McGraw-Hill, 2001

By Dante M. Velasco

THERE are books that acquire the status of a "classic." And once a book is conferred such an honor, it occupies a special place in your bookshelf. There are actually two sides to a timeless classic:

One, it preserves yesterday's occurrence so major or an idea so earthshaking then, and serves as an interesting study on how people lived or thought then. We look back and say, wistfully even, "O, that's how it was." It's history for the scholar and the curious.

Two, it keeps a watershed event or a groundbreaking idea all happening in the past that somehow, as representative of a period, can be retrieved later—today or tomorrow—to shed light on current happenings. It is history explaining contemporary or future events or ideas.

EXECUTIVE READ

The book, "Positioning: The Battle for Your Mind," published 20 years ago, is a classic that belongs to the second category. The book was an event that revolutionized advertising and marketing strategic thought. It was also an idea whose "time had come" two decades ago, to paraphrase Victor Hugo.

It's the same idea—"positioning"—that "is even more important today," say the publishers. Is it a case of "retrieving" a relic from the dusty shelf, refurbish it, and thus pass it off as fresh as it was 20 years ago?

Or is it a case of a "formula" that continues to work wonders, a potion that hasn't lost its magic, a time-tested (not time-worn) strategy that gets results, or an idea that always comes as "fresh from the oven."

Re-reading is normally a chore—if not a bore. You feel you are short-changing yourself. I was prepared for the worst when I took hold of this book—after I was attracted by its 20th anniversary edition cover. It turns out that the book offers more than just a re-run of what I have read, yes, about 12 years ago.

It has come fresh for two reasons: One, the authors give a running commentary on what they wrote much earlier—thus illuminating the past with the present and vice versa. Two, the commentaries are easy to spot since they are placed on wide margins, with (many times) matching illustrations, to boot.

On media explosion, for example. The old version spoke only of television, print and radio. At the margin is the familiar logo of "America Online" with the note: "Add the Internet to the media list. The Internet, in our opinion, will become the greatest of all media with the biggest impact on our lives." This is the book updating itself!

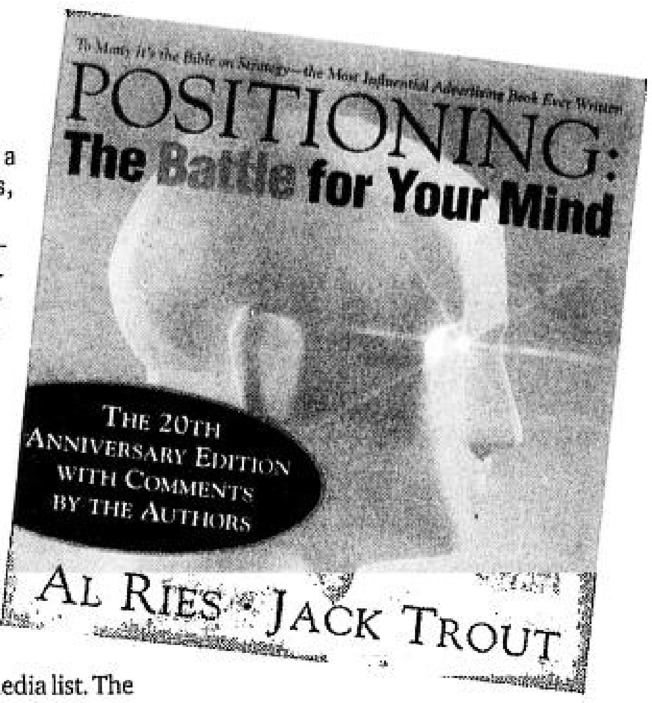
In the old version, the authors said that line extension for General Motors (makers of Cadillac) was ill-advised. In this newly minted book, the same authors—much wiser—admitted: "We were wrong about the Cadillac Seville. It's still with us." This is the book correcting itself.

While Ries and Trout were wrong about the Cadillac, they took an "I-told-you-so" posture on the Volkswagen. They said then that it was a "terrible strategy" for Volkswagen to extend its product lines beyond the Beetle—despite the cute headline: "Different Volks for different folks."

"In 1993," the new book says, "their (Volkswagen's) share was less than 3 percent. Recently, of course, they brought back the Beetle and sales soared."

There are many things that change. There are a few things that are unchanging. The authors did not revise their definition of "positioning."

"Positioning is not what you do to a product. Positioning is what you do to the mind of the prospect. That is, you position the product in the mind of the prospect." And the entire book, with 22 chapters, guide you once again to becoming successful with "positioning."


To Many It's the Bible on Strategy—the Most Influential Advertising Book Ever Written
POSITIONING:
The Battle for Your Mind
THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION WITH COMMENTS BY THE AUTHORS
AL RIES
JACK TROUT

When you do decide to revisit the "Positioning" idea, especially when you are interested to position a company, not a product, Page 159 narrates how Monsanto came up with a positioning idea that gave it pre-eminence as an industry leader in chemicals.

Revisiting a book—like a place—sometimes gives you a new eye for details that you missed the first time. I overlooked some interesting points when I read the old book—in the section titled "Make Sure Your Name Is Right." Who is Leonard Slye? Who was Marion Morrison? Who was Issur Danielovitch?

They are, in that order, Roy Rogers, John Wayne and Kirk Douglas! The message was clear then and clear now. Change your product or corporate name if they are forgettable—or are tongue twisters.

Reading the book the second time around, if only for the marginal notes, illuminates both the present and the past. "Positioning" as a marketing and creative approach remains effective today—alongside David Ogilvy's "unique selling proposition" and "The Big Idea."

If you haven't read the book, you have the advantage of knowing what works and what hasn't work in a two-decade stretch. If you've read the 20-years-ago edition, this latest one is "Positioning Revisited." It's viewing this durable concept with a new lens. *(dantemv@i-next.net)*

Folk dancer rises to become one of RP's top lady execs

From page B1

She considers her stay at the UP School of Economics a turning point in her life as she was thrust into a world of some of the most intelligent Filipinos. It was in UP where she met her future husband, Ruperto Alonzo, a magna cum laude of the Ateneo de Manila University and a Rockefeller Foundation scholar.

"We were envious of him because I think he got a stipend of P200 a month as a Rockefeller fellow while we received only about P100," Alonzo recalls.

They stayed together through their two years getting the Master's Degree in Economics and when they graduated Ruperto topped the class and he was invited to pursue a doctoral degree in the United States.

Since Alonzo did not want to be left behind, they got married in June 1969 and she accompanied her husband to the University of Chicago.

"We stayed for about three years there while he completed his scholarship. We were comfortable because he was completely on scholarship. I was also able to get a permit from the US government to do some research work at the industrial relations center of the university. It was also there where we had our first child, Laura," she says.

The Alonzo family eventually went home despite the turmoil that surrounded the declaration of martial law in 1972, but it was only in 1973 when Alonzo finally got her first crack at the corporate world—as a supervising analyst for Bancom Development Corp.

"I was so thrilled when I learned that Bancom wanted to hire me. At that time everybody who wanted a career in finance or economics wanted to work at Bancom because it was responsible for a lot of innovation. It was also led by the vision, energy and brilliance of Sixto Roxas. I was really so proud," Alonzo says.

She got P820 a month for doing industry studies for the bank. She says it was really good pay considering that top executives at that time earned P1,000 a month.

Alonzo described her job at Bancom as very stimulating and challenging, but she left just after over a year to join Philippine Pacific Capital Corp., the forerunner of RCBC Capital, as the assistant vice president—the first woman to hold the position.

She stayed at PPCC for five years before moving on to Philippine Airlines, then the Apex Mortgage and Loans Corp. and then to the Pilar Development Group as vice president for finance where she stayed from March to October 1984.

By this time, she was also actively involved in the efforts to topple the Marcos dictatorship, so after the successful Edsa revolution, she was called on to join the government to help in the housing efforts of former President Corazon Aquino.

"It was supposed to be volunteer work where I would stay only two months. I ended up working for the government for 13 years and most of that time with the Home Development Mutual Fund," Alonzo says.

1964. Opening night at the Lincoln Center in New York. From left: Helena Benitez, first daughter Gloria Macapagal, Bayanihan dancers Minda Primero, Loury Urtula and Alonzo.

She was again the first woman to head a government financial institution.

Alonzo says she learned a lot in Pag-Ibig about how to work in the government circles and she found fulfillment in helping others.

"At first I thought that I would be of service if I stayed in the private sector but for me it was electrifying to realize that policies that I help craft have an impact on the lives of thousands of people," she says.

It was far from an easy job but Alonzo stuck through it because as she says, it may sound trite but she has a deep love for her country and for its people.

"I always believed that life is worth living if it is lived for others," she says.

Her innovative approaches to financing helped Pag-Ibig Fund's assets to grow from P6 billion to P90 billion by the time she left in 1998. The fund's asset is now P120 billion.

She says she decided to leave government service in 1998 because she "was no longer inspired." She then joined a group of chief executive officers to form CEOs Inc., a company that specializes in management takeovers and managerial/financial reenginering.

Once more, Alonzo was the lone woman in a group of 12 executives.

Alonzo had a more relaxed schedule in the two years with CEOs Inc. but when asked to rejoin government last year, she said yes again. This time as CEO of the Small Business Guarantee and Finance Corp.

"When I went back to the private sector I did enjoy more free time, but in the end the activities did not give me the same fulfillment. I always thought that all the work I did before in the private sector prepared me for the job in Pag-Ibig and now I must do the same in SBGFC," she says.

MEL'S first date with husband-to-be Ruperto P. Alonzo at the Patio de Alba at the old Doña Narcisa Bldg.

Alonzo admits that her mandate is truly ambitious—to grow the small and medium enterprise sector and jumpstart the domestic economy. She was tasked to create innovate financial schemes to put more of the SMEs in the mainstream economy.

"I think this is my natural progression after Pag-Ibig because I now have to help people have livelihood so that they could eventually buy themselves a house," she says.

She, however, considers her family as her greatest accomplishment. Aside from a successful 33-year marriage to Ruperto, a deputy director general of the National Economic and Development Authority, she is also a proud mother to a 31-year-old daughter, who graduated from Yale University and now a consultant with PricewaterhouseCoopers in Washington DC.

Her 24-year-old son Carlo, on the other hand, graduated magna cum laude and class valedictorian from the University of the Philippines with a degree in Applied Physics. He is now taking up his master's degree while teaching in UP.

"I believe that we were able to make a success of our careers because we do not put premium on money. We have always been focused on public service and we made sure that our children imbibed this," she says.

With her personal life in order with the added bonus of her first grandchild, Alonzo says she is inspired again to work, and is looking forward to making another miracle happen with the SMEs

ALONZO was the proud mom when son Carlo graduated magna cum laude and class valedictorian, BS Applied Physics from the University of the Philippines.

Mushroom growing . . .

From page B14

no income in between harvests. But Abalos says a long-term vision was for Pangasinan to become a prime mushroom producer.

"We have no trade secrets, we just want everyone to grow mushroom which can help solve the unemployment and the malnutrition problem in our country," he says.

Profitable, nutritious

Abalos says mushroom growing could help the government create the one million jobs it wants to generate for Filipinos.

"It's a very profitable business. It takes only 12-15 days from seeding to harvesting, and it does not take much space," he says.

He adds that the fruiting bags could be stacked even under the farmers' houses.

Mushrooms are popular because of their high nutritive value. Information gathered from the Internet says the value of edible mushrooms compares favorably with that of plant tissue.

On the average, edible mushrooms produce all nine of the amino acids essential to human growth.

The good news, especially to those watching their weight, is that mushrooms are low in calories, but are good sources of mineral and trace elements iron, copper, and phosphorus, and relatively rich in vitamins C and D and B complex.

Hit and miss

Through hit and miss experiments, Abalos has mastered the mushroom growing technology—from tissue culture to spawn production to commercial scale growing.

He recalls that it was his older brother Avelino, then a high school teacher, who was first involved in mushroom production.

The term "mushrooming" may mean "rapidly increasing," but Abalos discovered early on that mushrooms do not easily "mushroom" in the province because of lack of financial support.

In 1992, Abalos helped barangay leaders form the Balikatan Farmers Multipurpose Cooperative.

From a rocky start, the cooperative now has 120 members and its mushroom production project was given an P800,000 grant by the Philippine-Australian Cooperation Assistance Program and a mini-tractor from the Development Assistance Program in 2000.

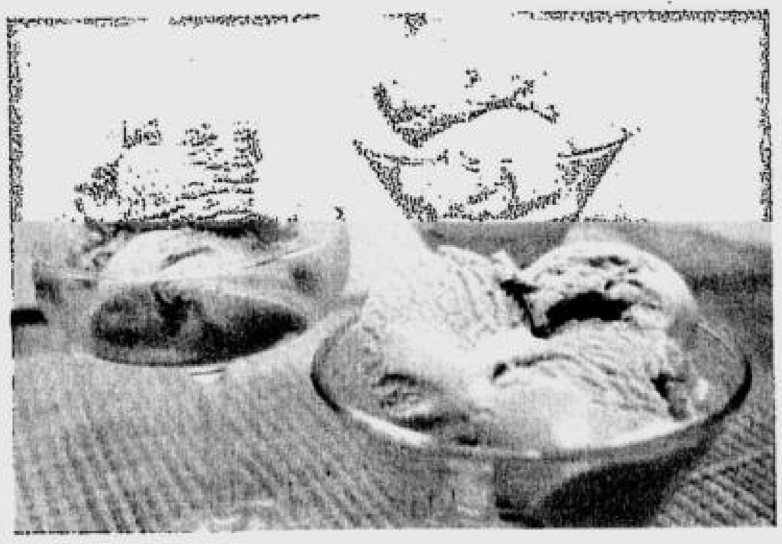
From the grant, the cooperative built a small building housing a mushroom tissue culture laboratory and a storeroom.

Abalos still dreams of seeing mushrooms propagated not only by members of the cooperative but by other people who want to start their own businesses.

Retirees create ice cream that leave others cold

By Meluchi A. Rivera

PINOY ENTREPRENEUR



FRUIT in Ice Cream products are the only ice cream from the Philippines accepted in strict Japan. PHOTOS BY JOAN BONDOC

SUCCESS tastes sweet, or so the saying goes. For Fruits in Ice Cream (FIC), it is also rich and creamy, with just the right hint of tartness. FIC, you see, has gained a loyal following mainly by word-of-mouth. And all the brand needs to sell itself is a spoonful of any of its variants in Mango, Ube, Halo-Halo, Vanilla, Tsokolate, Cappuccino, Green Tea, Rocky Road, Macapuno, Strawberry and Durian.

Proof of this success is how Jose Celdran, Rosalinda Custodio, Edgardo Garcia and Vivien Ongkiko, the four active partners of The Food People Inc., have lately been swamped with inquiries from franchisees eager to cash in on this seeming sure-fire winner.

FIC has been described by fans as "among the best ice cream around," and the four have received letters from as far as Davao and Iloilo, from people who have become converts after tasting one, two—or most—of its 11 flavors.

While FIC seems to have burst into popularity only recently, it has been around nearly five years now. FIC has been mainly exported to Japan and the United States, where its exotic Ube, Mango and Macapuno flavors are a perennial hit.

The brand has also been supplied to a few restaurants and home-based distributors locally. "FIC has been sold in Tagaytay Highlands since 1998," Celdran reveals, and adds, smiling: "In fact, some of our first patrons still refer to our product as 'the ice cream at Highlands.'"

Retirees-turned-entrepreneurs

The enterprise behind FIC, The Food People Inc., is made up of youthful "retirees" from Magnolia, San Miguel Corp.'s (SMC) erstwhile ice cream brand which has since been purchased by Nestlé.

Ongkiko and Celdran had been part of Magnolia's export group, and were essentially reorganized out of their jobs after some corporate rethinking at SMC.

Ditto for Custodio, who had worked at Magnolia's product development department for 17 years; and Garcia who had logged 12 years with SMC's agribusiness division. Two other inactive partners, Rafael Tuason—now deceased—and Cesar Geronimo, round out this unlikely band of ex-SMC "lifers"-turned-entrepreneurs.

Save for Celdran, the retirees had hardly entertained entrepreneurial thoughts before going into this venture. But they all shared a firm belief in the viability of the product, had the right connections in export markets, and over 50 years of experience in the food industry between them.

Celdran relates: "Because we had come from the export division, we knew that there was a market for a premium, tropical fruit ice cream, primarily for export. When we started we already knew buyers for the United States and Japan; and were talking to distributors in Brunei, other Asian markets."

But the venture began in 1997, when the Asian currency crisis was just beginning to be felt. "A lot of our regional prospects dried up," Ongkiko admits. But the partners persisted, pooling money from their retirement packages and contracting out production to toll manufacturers. By September of that year they had their first shipment; and within another three months most of FIC's flavors were in production.

Growing pains

There were painful adjustments in the beginning. As Ongkiko notes, "From a big, structured corporation to an endeavor such as this, it was difficult at times. We were used to having support groups but now, we have to do everything ourselves!" She reveals their limited human resource actually inspired their corporate name, as "I am the Food Person for Marketing, Joey (Celdran) is the Food Person for Business Development, Osang (Custodio) is the Food Person for Product Development, Ed (Garcia) is the Food Person for Finance . . . "

As the Food Person for Product Development, Custodio keeps tabs on quality and is largely to thank for FIC's silky consistency, its right balance of tastes and flavors, its visually appealing colors and swirls. She modestly avers that "it's easy to come up with the flavors; it's the sourcing of ingredients that is the bottleneck."

The perennial hurdle is finding flavors locally, as the company's small size limits their dealings with the large flavor suppliers.

But smallness has its upsides: Recently, FIC came up with the Raspberry Rhapsody flavor as part of its limited-edition gourmet selection—the outcome of a happy accident more than anything else. The Food People had stumbled upon the batch, which was the over-shipment of a donut manufacturer's. The end result: what the partners acknowledge as one of FIC's best flavors. "We're a small company so we can be opportunistic with our purchases," Ongkiko explains.

The history of FIC's growth can be described as opportunistic. They had no grand development blueprint; instead they opted to go with the flow.

New plant

Take for instance their purchase of their own factory in Bulacan in the first quarter of this year. "It wasn't a bold decision on our part to purchase the plant, it just happened," Celdran reveals. One of FIC's contract manufacturers had decided to give up their ice cream plant and made them an offer too good to refuse. "He gave us a good deal on the equipment; essentially he made it easy for us to acquire it. And we absorbed most of the people."

The plant has effectively upped the ante for FIC. Garcia, who has of late also become the defacto Food Person for Plant Operations, explains that production is taken up evenly by the export and local markets. "But now that the plant is ours, we can be more flexible in terms of scheduling and of developing new products."

Celdran reveals that with their new plant, FIC can now aim for a higher local profile. Much of the recent buzz on FIC stemmed from the opening of its flagship scooping station at the Rockwell Power Plant Mall, operated by Celdran's wife. Another outlet, at Shopwise Libis, is operated by friend Eric Rodriguez; and soon FIC will be a familiar sight in malls in Alabang and Makati.

FIC is also supplied to a growing list of restaurants like Kimpura, California Pizza Kitchen, Tequila Joe's, Matti, Portico and Buddies.

The partners however have no illusions of going head-on with the big local brands. FIC is priced higher than the local Nestlé and Selecta brands but is much cheaper than imports such as Haagen Dazs and Dreyers; and the brand hopes to appeal to food buffs "who really just like their ice cream," explains Celdran.

"It wouldn't make sense for us to directly compete anyway," he says, shrugging. "Like Nestlé, for instance, imagine how much money we'd have to spend to compete."

"We're just like the mosquito biting the giant," Custodio interjects, laughing.

Formula for success

Their entry into the entrepreneurial arena has changed their view on success. Says Ongkiko: "We don't aspire to be a big corporation, because then it won't be fun. Call us idealistic but we have reached a point wherein making money is secondary. We just want to do business honorably."

Another insight gained is that successful local businessmen are very eager to help out to fledgling entrepreneurs. Celdran relates that suppliers graciously entertained FIC's first modest orders for plastic tubs and boxes. "A lot of them also started out small, and were helped by other businessmen, so they wanted to give us a break too."

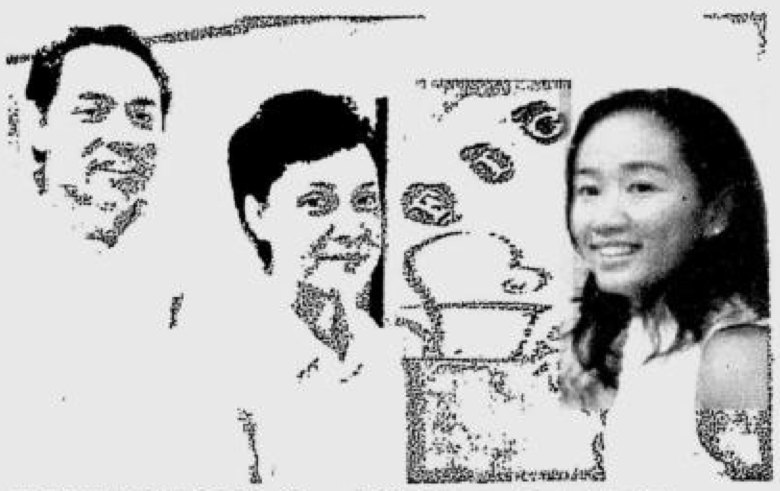
The man who sold them the ice cream plant also wanted to see them succeed. "He kept saying, 'it's hard enough to do business these days; I shouldn't add to your problems.'"

Custodio notes that the company has come this far because of the partners' knowledge of the food industry; but it also takes something extra to succeed in business. "We've been very fortunate to have dealt with so many good people. Call it luck, karma or divine providence; but things just managed to work out when we needed them to."

Abetted by such goodwill, the partners have almost no choice but to persevere in the business—and to pay the goodwill forward. This means sharing their know-how with suppliers and employees. Garcia also notes that with 14 full-time employees, "we're essentially supporting 14 families," a responsibility that they do not take lightly.

It also helps that the partners of The Food People have forged real friendships with each other. Through the years, Celdran, Ongkiko, Custodio and Garcia have discovered they have similar work ethics and viewpoints. "There's a deeper trust when you work well together and then realize that you can also be friends," Ongkiko reveals. She notes that many businesses have risen and faltered because the partners start out as friends and then realized, "I can't work with this person!"

Indeed, their shared dream for FIC, as Ongkiko describes it, is to come up with "the most luxurious, ultimate ice cream" using only the finest ingredients; with whole fruits—no purees, please; the freshest milk and the richest cream. "Maybe when the market's ready."



PEOPLE BEHIND FIC: (From left) Celdran, Custodio and Ongkiko. Not in photo is Edgardo Garcia.

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Project No.: GS200224
Bid Deadline: August 22, 2002

D. DISCUSSION SYSTEM, MICROPHONES
Project No.: GS200227
Bid Deadline: August 22, 2002

E. LCD PROJECTOR w/ DOCUMENT CAMERA, DIGITAL CAMERA
Project No.: HR200203
Bid Deadline: August 22, 2002

Interested ACCREDITED parties may obtain bid forms upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P100.00 per bid package from the PNOC - Property and Supply Management Division (PSMD) at the G/F of the PNOC Building.

Interested parties who are not yet accredited must first pass the pre-qualification process. Pre-qualification documents-checklist is available at the said address upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P100.00, which must be accomplished and submitted to PSMD on or before August 8, 2002. Failure to pre-qualify would render the concerned parties automatically disqualified from this bidding.

All bids must be accompanied by a bid security equivalent to 10% of the total bid price but not to exceed ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P100,000.00), secured from any one of PNOC's accredited bonding companies.

The PNOC reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids or parts thereof, to waive formality therein or to accept such bids or to award any work that are considered most advantageous to the company.

(Sgd.) ATTY. PEDRO A. AQUINO JR.
Senior Vice President
Legal, Admin. and Estate
Management Services

(PDI--July 20 & 21, 2002)

WANTED

LABORATORY MANAGER
- Licensed Chemist not more than 35 years old
- Have previous laboratory supervisory position required
- At least 5 years experience with laboratory instrumentation work
- Visionary and committed to career growth

LABORATORY SUPERVISOR
- Not more than 30 years old, licensed Chemists with at least five years experience in food, pharmaceutical, environmental laboratory work
- Eager to take new challenges in a state-of-the-art laboratory and healthy work environment
- We offer excellent benefits and above industry standard compensation

MICROBIOLOGISTS
- Not more than 30 years old
- With minimum four (4) years laboratory Experience in food and pharmaceutical applications

LABORATORY AIDE
- Not more than 25 years old
- Male, college graduate of any course

SEND YOUR PHOTO AND BIODATA TO:
P.O. BOX 280 GREENHILLS
SAN JUAN, METRO MANILA

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT
Batasan Pambansa Complex, Constitution Hills,
Quezon City
Telephone No. 931-8101 to 07

July 19, 2002

In compliance with the provisions of RA 7041, the Department of Social Welfare and Development has the following vacancies under the **Legal Service:**

1. **(1) Director III,** SG 37, Item Number OSEC-DSWDB-DIR3-27-1998; Education Requirement: Bachelor of Laws; Experience Requirement: Three (3) years of supervisory experience; Training Requirement: None required; Eligibility Requirement: RA 1080 (BAR).
2. **(1) Legal Officer III,** SG-20, Item Number OSEC-DSWDB-LEGO3-1998; Education Requirement: Bachelor of Laws; Experience Requirement: One (1) year of relevant experience; Training Requirement: Four (4) hours of relevant training; Eligibility Requirement: RA 1080 (BAR).

(Sgd.) **LUWALHATI F. PABLO**
Undersecretary

(PDI - July 21, 2002)

TENDER SALES

SEALED BID SALES

IMPORTED UNASSEMBLED 7260m² WAREHOUSE BUILDING WITH ADJUSTABLE DOCK LEVELERS AND BUILDING SERVICES

BUILDING - Pre-Engineered Structural Steel; Roof and Wall Insulation, Windows & Louvers, External Staircase, Purlins, Roll-up Doors, etc.
ELECTRICAL - ABB 3.75 MVA Substation Transformer; (4) ACME Delta 480/240 Transformers 112.5 KVA; ACME Delta 480/240 Transformer 75 KVA; (4) ACME Delta 480/240 Transformers 45 KVA; ACME Delta 480/240 Transformer 30 KVA; ACME Delta 480/240 Transformer 150 KVA; Load Interrupter Switches; (3) Current Transformers 300 5A15KV; (3) Potential Transformers 13.8/0.11KV; 100KVA UPS; Main Switch Boards, etc.
MECHANICAL - (6) YORK Handling Units; (2) ITT BELL & GOSETT; Condenser Water Pumps; Window/Split Type Air Conditioning Units, etc.
ARCHITECTURAL ITEMS - (9) RITE HITE Adjustable Dock Levelers, Steel Doors, etc.
MISCELLANEOUS - (4) 20' Office Containers; Demountable Office Building, etc.

AT: CLARKFIELD, ANGELES CITY, PAMPANGA, PHILIPPINES
ON VIEW: THURSDAY 25TH, FRIDAY 26TH & SATURDAY 27TH JULY 2002
TENDERS DUE: SATURDAY 27TH JULY 2002 - 12:00NOON

WALK-IN/ICE CREAM FREEZERS; MOTOR VEHICLES; FORKLIFT TRUCK; GENERATING SET, ETC.

WALK-IN/ICE CREAM FREEZERS - MASTER BILT Walk-In Freezer; (6) HUSSMAN DC16 Ice Cream Freezer/Dipping Cabinet (Unused); (16) HUSSMAN DC16; (2) DC12, (2) DC8, Ice Cream Freezer/Dipping Cabinets; (5) SCAN FROST SG15 Sliding Glass Freezers; GENERAL ELECTRIC Fridge/Freezer
MOTOR VEHICLES - MITUSBISHI L300 w/ Freezer Box; TOYOTA CROWN (1982)
FORKLIFT TRUCK - KOMATSU 1.5T Cap. LPG
MISCELLANEOUS - 25KVA Generating Set; 45KVA 3 Phase Transformer; FUJI Blower w/ 7.5KW Electric Motor; Grain Silo; SUPERIOR Cappuccino Coffee Machine; BAKERS AID Dough Retarder; Electric Hotdog Warmer

AT: KIFIL INTERNATIONAL PHILIPPINES, INC.
FACILITY #7140 GIL. PUYAT AVENUE, CLARK SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE, CLARKFIELD, PAMPANGA, PHILIPPINES
ON VIEW: THURSDAY 25TH, FRIDAY 26TH & SATURDAY 27TH JULY 2002
TENDERS DUE: SATURDAY 27TH JULY 2002 - 12:00NOON

HENRY BUTCHER

HENRY BUTCHER INTERNATIONAL PHILS. INC.
102 Ground Floor, Jollliand Bldg., 670 EDSA, Pasay City
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E-mail: manila@henrybutcher.com

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DAVIDVILLE ACADEMY

Sucat Road, Parañaque City
National Capital Region

Davidville Academy, through its Project Manager, invites all interested Building Contractors (PCAB category "B" min.) to bid for the supply of labor and materials on the construction of a proposed two (2) storey school building to be constructed at the academy premises.

Interested bidders must submit letter of intent and pre-qualification documents (Pre-CI) starting July 24 and not later than July 31, 2002 at Rm. 6 2nd floor, Skydragon Bldg., Domestic Drive, Pasay City (near domestic airport) and will be required to pay a non-refundable amount of Php 3,500.00 as payment for the bid documents which will include schedule of succeeding bid activities.

The academy reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any defects found therein and accept the bids as may be considered most advantageous to the school.

Macario Pascual, Jr.
President

(PDI--July 21, 2002)

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
DepEd Complex, Meralco Avenue
Pasig City

Invitation for Bids (IFB)

IFB Number : SEMP-2001-01 DskChrs — July 12, 2001
Project Title : Social Expenditure Management Project (SEMP) — Loan No. 4535-PH
Contract Title : Supply and Delivery of School Furniture To Public Elementary School

1. The Government of the Republic of the Philippines has entered into Loan Agreement 4535 with the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) in various currencies for the financing of the Social Expenditure Management Project (SEMP). It is intended that part of the proceeds of this loan will be applied to eligible payments under the following contracts for supply and delivery of school furniture to public elementary and secondary school in the country.

   List of contracts/package (Quantity)

Location	Elementary School Furniture		Secondary School Furniture	
Region I	Lot 1	(7,877)	Lot 2	(4,866)
Region II	Lot 3	(4,829)	Lot 4	(3,988)
Region III	Lot 5	(4,320)	Lot 6	(1,009)
Region IV	Lot 7	(22,649)	Lot 8	(2,081)
Region V	Lot 9	(5,879)	Lot 10	(9,081)
Region VI	Lot 11	(11,064)	Lot 12	(10,125)
Region VII	Lot 13	(6,648)	Lot 14	(14,424)
Region VIII	Lot 15	(8,151)	Lot 16	(3,638)
Region IX	Lot 17	(4,266)	Lot 18	(7,280)
Region X	Lot 19	(4,921)	Lot 20	(4,508)
Region XI	Lot 21	(9,058)	Lot 22	(9,123)
Region XII	Lot 23	(6,614)	Lot 24	(3,967)
CARAGA	Lot 25	(4,428)	Lot 26	(4,533)
NCR	Lot 27	(13,138)	Lot 28	(9,141)

   The evaluation will be done for each lot separately and award will be made per lot. A bidder must bid for the total quantity required in a lot in order to be considered for evaluation.

2. The Department of Education through the DepEd BAC (Bids and Awards Committee) now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the supply and delivery of school furniture to public elementary and secondary schools.
3. For the purpose of this bid, eligible bidders shall be those who have experience in the supply or selling and distribution or delivery of school furniture.
4. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the bidding documents at Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), G/F Rizal Building II, DepEd Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City, with Telephone No.: 636-6542 or visit www.deped.gov.ph.
5. Interested bidders on completion of an application form may purchase a complete set of bidding documents from BAC and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Two Thousand Pesos (P2,000.00). The bidding documents will be made available at the BAC starting **July 19, 2002.**
6. The provisions in the Instruction to Bidders and in the General Conditions of Contract are the provisions of the World Bank *Standard Bidding Documents: Procurement of Goods.*
7. Sealed bids, together with the bid security of not less than two and one half percent (2.5%) of the total bid amount must be delivered to Bulwagan ng Karunungan, Rizal Building, DECS Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City on or before 10:00 A.M., **September 3, 2002.**
8. Bids will be opened in the presence of bidders' representatives who choose to attend at 10:00 A.M. on **September 3, 2002** at Bulwagan ng Karunungan, Rizal Building, DepEd Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City.
9. Prior to Bid Opening, a Pre-Bid Conference will be held at the address stated in paragraph 8 at 10:00 A.M. on **August 20, 2002.**
10. The BAC reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any informality therein and award the lots to one or more bidder(s).

(Sgd.) **ERNESTO S. PANGAN**
Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI--July 14 & 21, 2002)

Republic of the Philippines
Professional Regulation Commission
Manila

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO RE-BID

The Professional Regulation Commission invites anew interested BIDDERS to submit sealed bids for the printing of Test Booklets for the August 2002 Licensure Examination for Teachers in the Elementary and Secondary Levels with corresponding specializations and with a Ceiling Bid Price of P3,300,000.00.

Bid documents may be secured from the Bids and Awards Committee at the Office of the BAC Secretary, Administrative Office, Ground Floor, PRC Building, P. Paredes St., Sampaloc, Manila on Tuesday, **July 23, 2002.**

To pre-qualify, the following legal documents (duly notarized) must be submitted on or before **July 25, 2002** at 10:00 A.M.:

1. Company Profile
2. SEC/DTI Registration
3. Business Permit 2002
4. VAT Registration
5. DTI Accreditation Certification
6. "No Blacklist" Certificate
7. Latest 2-year Audited Financial Statements
8. List of Government clients/ references

Company and plant visits for bidders who did not join the first bidding and which passed the eligibility requirements shall be conducted on **July 25, 2002.**

Eligible bidders will be notified of Pre-bid Conference which shall be held on **July 26, 2002** at 10:00 A.M. at PRC Conference Room, 2nd Floor, Main Building. Failure to attend will be a ground for disqualification to participate in the bidding.

Last day of submission and opening of technical and financial bids shall be on **August 5, 2002** at 10:00 A.M. at PRC Conference Room, 2nd Floor, Main Building. The two (2) envelope system shall be adopted in the bidding.

All bid proposals must be accompanied by a bidder's bond equivalent to 2.5% of the total bid offer in the form of G.S.I.S. bond or Manager's Check.

The Professional Regulation Commission reserves the right to reject any or all bids without offering any reason, thereof, to waive any required formality therein, and to accept, that which is most advantageous to the government. The Commission shall not compensate or indemnify the bidders for any expense or loss that may be incurred in the preparation of bids nor does it guarantee that an award will be made.

The Commission also reserves the right to confiscate the bid bond should the winning bidder refuse to accept the contract and award instead the bid to the second lowest bidder.

(Sgd.) **Dir. TEOFILO GATUS M. SISON, JR.**
BAC Chairman

(PDI--July 21, 2002)

Agrarian Reform Infrastructure Support Project-II
Institutional Development and
Results Monitoring & Evaluation Components
4/F DAP Building, San Miguel Avenue, Pasig City 1600

INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY TO BID

The Development Academy of the Philippines is pleased to announce the selection of Local-Based Partner Institutions to implement Cooperative Development work aimed at transforming selected ARC cooperatives into competitive conduits in promoting ARC development in the following areas:

Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR)	NPC ARC, Atok, Benguet
	RIMALIPAD ARC, Conner, Apayao
Region I	Arapaap ARC, Cabugao, Ilocos Sur
Region II	PENATUCA ARC, Lasam, Cagayan
	Pinappagan ARC, Madella, Quirino
Region III	Llanera ARC, Llanera, Nueva Ecija
Region IV	Pacheco ARC, Magallanes, Cavite
	CANASID ARC, Mulanay, Quezon II
Region IX	Sapa Anding ARC, Ramon Magsaysay, Zamboanga del Sur
	Campo IV ARC, Ramon Magsaysay, Zamboanga del sur
	Balongating ARC, Guipos, Zamboanga del Sur
Region XI	Glamang ARC, Polomolok, South Cotabato
CARAGA	Malimono ARC, Malimono, Surigao del Norte

Interested parties (NGOs, Academic Institutions, Private Service-Oriented Consultancy Groups), must have worked in or are currently implementing a project within the municipality or province of choice. Please send your letter of intent and company profile either through mail to DAP-ARISP-II, Center for Governance, 4/F DAP Bldg., San Miguel Ave., Pasig City 1600 or through fax at (02) 6312169 on or before 5:00 pm August 19, 2002. Please indicate the code "Package-4 LBPI Selection" on the envelope or facsimile sheet.

(Sgd.) **MA. CONCEPCION P. PABALAN**
Project Director, DAP-ARISP-II IDRMEC

(PDI--July 21, 2002)

REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS
KAGAWARAN NG KAGALINGANG PANLIPUNAN AT PAGPAPAUNLAD
(DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT)
BATASAN PAMBANSA COMPLEX, CONSTITUTION HILLS
QUEZON CITY

PHILIPPINES 2000

1898 - 1998
100
KALAYAAN

Republic of the Philippines
Early Childhood Development Project

INVITATION TO BIDS

ITB No. 2002-NCB-CW-001

To: All Eligible Bidders

The Republic of the Philippines has received a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) towards the financing of the cost of **Early Childhood Development Project (ECDP)** and intends to apply part of the proceeds of the loan to cover eligible payments under contract for related civil works (i.e. construction and repair of Day Care Centers, Barangay Health Station and Day Care Homes) in various Local Government Units (LGUs) in Region VI.

The following LGUs invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the various project in Region VI.

LGU NAME	ADDRESSES	TELEPHONE NUMBERS
1. Ajuy, Iloilo	Chairperson-PBAC, Municipal Hall Ajuy, Iloilo	(033)3922044/3920469
2. Concepcion, Iloilo	Chairperson-PBAC, Mun. Hall, Concepcion, Iloilo	(033)3920309
3. New Lucena, Iloilo	Chairperson-PBAC, Mun. Hall, New Lucena, Iloilo	(033)5262160
4. Pototan, Iloilo	Chairperson-PBAC, Mun. Hall, Pototan, Iloilo ,	(033)5297333
5. Iloilo City	Chairperson-PBAC, City Hall, Iloilo City	(036)3375666/3367943
6. Panitan Capiz	Chairperson-PBAC, Mun. Hall, Panitan, Capiz	(036)6340236
7. Pontevedra, Capiz	Chairperson-PBAC, Mun. Hall, Pontevedra, Capiz	(036)6340132/6340621
8. Maayon, Capiz	Chairperson-PBAC, Mun. Hall, Maayon, Capiz	0919-2258238
9. Tapaz, Capiz	Chairperson-PBAC, Mun. Hall, Tapaz, Capiz	0912-3089794/0918-3334258
10. Roxas City	Chairperson-PBAC, City Hall, Roxas City	(036)6215316/6212769
11. Bugasong, Antique	Chairperson-PBAC, Mun. Hall, Bugasong, Antique	(036)1982137 to 40
12. Pandan, Antique	Chairperson-PBAC, Mun. Hall, Pandan, Antique	(036)2889391/2889128
13. Patnongon, Antique	Chairperson-PBAC, Mun. Hall, Patnongon, Antique	0916-4133980
14. Tobias Fornier, Antique	Chairperson-PBAC, Mun. Hall, T. Fornier, Antique	0916-3921071
15. Himamaylan, Negros Occ.	Chairperson-PBAC, City Hall, Himamaylan City	(034)744-7595
16. Hinigaran, Negros Occ.	Chairperson-PBAC, Mun. Hall, Hinigaran City, Neg. Occ.	(034)3917715
17. Madalag, Aklan	Chairperson-PBAC, Mun. Hall, Madalag, Aklan	0916-3191293
18. Nva. Valencia, Guimaras	Chairperson-PBAC, Mun. Hall, Nva. Valencia, Guim.	(0918)506-3785

Bidding documents may be purchased at the Office of the Pre/Post-qualification Bids & Award Committee (PBAC) of the respective LGUs from **July 23** to **August 25, 2002**. Pre-Bid Conferences shall be held at the respective LGU addresses on **August 12, 2002** at 10:00 a.m. Bidders may obtain further information at the same addresses or may call the above telephone/cellular phone numbers.

Bids shall be valid for a period of **90 days** after opening of bids and must be accompanied by a bid security of two and one-half (2½%) percent of total bid price, and shall be delivered on a sealed envelope (both Technical and Financial Proposal) to the PBAC Chairperson of the respective LGUs on or before 10:00 a.m., **August 26, 2002.** Late bids will be rejected, Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders representative who choose to attend at the place, time and date stated above.

(Sgd.) **RHODA F. YAP**
Assistant Secretary & BAC Chairperson

(PDI - July 21 & 28, 2002)

REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS
KAGAWARAN NG KAGALINGANG PANLIPUNAN AT PAGPAPAUNLAD
(DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT)
BATASAN PAMBANSA COMPLEX, CONSTITUTION HILLS
QUEZON CITY

PHILIPPINES 2000

INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY FOR THE PROVISION OF CONSULTING SERVICES

Early Childhood Development Project
Loan No. ADF 1607

1. The Government of the Republic of the Philippines through the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) has received a loan from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in financing the Early Childhood Development Project (ECDP). Part of the proceeds of this loan will be applied for eligible payments for the conduct of a research studies.
2. The Department of Social Welfare and Development, now invites eligible research institutions/agencies to apply for pre-qualification for the provision of consulting services to undertake any of the following studies:
   a. "The Efficacy of Vitamin A and Iron Fortified Wheat Flour in Improving the Iron Status of School Children"
   b. Study on "The Effect of Iodized Salt on the Quality of Selected Food Products"
3. Interested research institutions may obtain information and secure a complete set of pre-qualification form, upon presentation of a letter of intent, starting **July 29** to **August 16, 2002** from Ms. Maricris Jacinto, BAC Secretariat, Property and Supply Division, 2nd Floor, Batasan Pambansa Complex, Constitution Hills, Quezon City with telephone number **951-8161** or **931-8101** to **07** loc. 125. Deadline for the submission of duly notarized accomplished pre-qualification forms, SEC registration, constitution and by-laws, company profile and other related documents is on **August 30, 2002.**

(Sgd.) **RHODA F. YAP**
Assistant Secretary &
BAC Chairperson

(PDI - July 21 & 28, 2002)

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633-5527 to 28 / 6335741

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

EDWIN M. FABURADA

Please be informed that effective 31 May 2002; **MR. EDWIN M. FABURADA** is no longer connected with **RAMCAR TIRE CORPORATION.** Any transaction by him in behalf of **RAMCAR TIRE CORPORATION** will not be honored.

(PDI – July 21, 2002)

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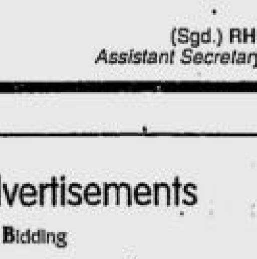

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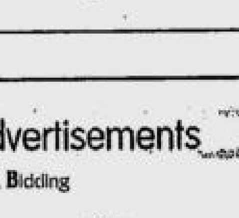
in **Visayas**



Diri na ta sa INQUIRER bay! Sayon na sulit pa!

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309 Ledesma Street, Iloilo City
Tel. No. (033) 508-2530
Fax (033) 509-0190
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Dra. Bease Candelario
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Pastrana Street, Kalibo, Aklan
Tel. No. (036) 262-4155/268-5200
Roxas City
Ms. Marieta Santos
Komiks Magazines and Newspaper Dealer
Door C, MB Building, Fuentes Drive
Roxas City
Tel. No. (036) 621-5586/622-6925
Tacloban City
Mr. Neil Montejo
Montejo's Newspaper Supply
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Tacloban City
Tel Nos. (053)325-6743/321-2954
Tagbilaran City
Mr. Ferdinand Mercado
Doña Rosario Village
G. Penaflor Street
Tagbilaran City
Tel. No. (038) 411-5007

Bacolod City
Ms. Elizabeth Verdeflor
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Mr. Raymund Mercado
Hi-Top News Mag and Gen. Merchandise
Dr. V. Locsin Street, Dumaguete City
Tel No (035) 225-5798/225-4364
Mr. Ramon Charles Sy
New Rene's
Dr. V. Locsin Street, Dumaguete City
Tel No. (035) 225-4320
Iloilo
Eddie-Mar News and Magazine Center
Ground Floor, Bombo Radio Building
Mapa Street, Iloilo City
Tel. (033) 337-3120

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Butuan City
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Cagayan de Oro City
OMNI General Merchandise
Dr. 1 De Leon Building
Pabayo-Pacana Streets, Cagayan de Oro City
Tel No (08822) 722-530
Grandstar News and Magazines
122 Cruz Taal corner Pabayo Street
Cagayan de Oro City
Tel No (088) 857-2571/857-1612
Telefax (088) 231-3248
E-mail grandstar@hotmail.com
Cotabato
Marquez News and Magazine Agency
51 Sinsuat Avenue, Cotabato City
Tel (064) 421-3264
Davao City
Dabaw Periodicals, Inc.
Duterte Street, Davao City
(fronting Galleria Hotel)
Tel No (082) 226-4406/221-3379/221-3424/226-2931

Babasahin ATBP.
Lower Level, Gaisano Mall, Bajada
Davao City
Ground Floor, Victoria Plaza, Bajada
Davao City
Tel No (082) 221-3927/227-4410
General Santos
Mr. Ramon Dimalanta
GSC Newscenter, Dimalanta Building
35 Pioneer Avenue, General Santos City
Tel Nos (083)552-3352
Telefax No (083) 301-8731
Pagadian City
Mr. Eduardo Villar Clavero
Edmar News - Advertising Agency
Bonifacio Street, Pagadian City
Tel No (062) 215-1448/214-2641
Zamboanga
Mr. James Hao
Marien's Variety Store, 86-88 Sevilla Street
Zamboanga City
Tel Nos (062) 991-4294/991-1438
Mr. Ruben Bautista
#71 C Atilano Street, Zamboanga
Tel Nos (062) 991-2965/ (062) 993-2826

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In Loving Memory

on the 25th Death Anniversary of

LEOPOLDO ACUÑA PICAZO

(1905 - 1977)

U.P. College of Law Class 1930

Holy Masses will be offered at the following Churches on Sunday July 21, 2002:

SANTUARIO DE SAN JOSE GREENHILLS, SAN JUAN	10:15 AM
PARISH OF THE HOLY SACRIFICE U.P. DILIMAN, QUEZON CITY	10:00 AM
MARY THE QUEEN PARISH GREENHILLS, SAN JUAN	12:00 NOON 7:15 PM
ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE TIMOG AVENUE, QUEZON CITY	10:00 AM
CARMEL OF ST. THERESE 4 GILMORE AVENUE, QUEZON CITY	6:30 AM
MOUNT CARMEL SHRINE DNA. JUANA RODRIGUEZ, NEW MLA, QUEZON CITY	11:00 AM
SANTUARIO DE SAN ANTONIO FORBES PARK, MAKATI	12:00 NOON
SANTO DOMINGO CHURCH QUEZON BOULEVARD, QUEZON CITY	10:00 AM
STA. MARIA DEL LA STRADA KATIPUNAN ROAD, DILIMAN, QUEZON CITY	10:30 AM
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH CUBAO, QUEZON CITY	6:00 PM

The family requests relatives, friends and pious readers to join them in prayer for his eternal rest.

In Loving Memory of

LORENA PALOMO Vda. de UY

who passed away in the Grace of our Lord on July 18, 2002 at the age of 87.

Her children and their spouses **Cesar** and **Beatrice, Maria Lourdes** and **Antonio, Maria Theresa** and **Oscar, Jose Jr.** and **Lina, Maria Melinda, Ernesto** and **Milagros**, and **Maria Cecilia**; grandchildren, great-grandchildren, brothers, sisters, in-laws, other relatives and friends request the pious reader to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at Christ the King Chapel, White Plains, Quezon City.

Interment will be on Monday, July 22, 2002, at Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina City, after the 9:00 a.m. Mass at Christ the King Chapel.

In lieu of flowers, donations to Bukas Palad or Sinag Hosp. Volunteers Foundation, Inc. will be greatly appreciated.

"Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28

Rosita Reyes Ceguera

Peacefully joined her Creator on July 19, 2002 at the age of 71.

Her husband **JUDGE SALVADOR C. CEGUERA** (Ret.); children **RAMON & MARISSA, WILFREDO & CHERYL, PHILIP & ANABEL**, and **MARA**; grandchildren **KATRINA & PATRICK, CALISTA & LOUISE, CAMILLE, KYLE & ASHLEY, EA & GABBY**; brothers **JUANITO, NORBERTO JR.**; sister **PACITA**; and other relatives request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at Chapel 15, La Funeraria Paz, G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Cremation will follow after the 8:30 a.m. Mass and Service on Wednesday, July 24, 2002.

MESSAGE OF THANKS

Retired Supreme Court Justice Emilio A. Gancayco
beloved husband of the late

HERMINIA MEJIA GANCAYCO

who joined our Lord and Creator
on July 6, 2002

and the family

sincerely convey their deepest gratitude and appreciation
to all who condoled with them by offering Masses and
prayers, sent flowers, messages of sympathy,
gave donations, visited and kept vigil at the wake,
attended the funeral rites and days of prayer and
in many unknown countless ways,
comforted them in the hour of their bereavement.

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"Whoever serves Me must follow Me; and where I am, My servant also will be." John 12:16

Our Dearly Beloved

BETTY ESCOBAR SANCHEZ

Peacefully joined our Lord on July 18, 2002.

Her loving husband **JUDE T. SANCHEZ**; children **NEIL, JUDE JR., STEVE, KRISTINE, ESTHER JOY, JUDITH**; daughter-in-law **ANTOINETTE**; and grandson **MIGS**, request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at Chapel 4, St. Alphonsus de Liguori Memorial Chapels, Magallanes Village, Makati City Interment will be on Tuesday, July 23, 2002 after the 8:30 AM Mass.

EUSEBIO (Eboy) S. MONTANO

Joined his Creator on July 17, 2002 at the age of 90 years and 7 months.

His bereaved wife **Ciriaca (Akang)**; children **Mando** and **Narcing (Lubigan)**, **Doris** and **Vic (Indiongco)**, Jun and Amy (Velasco), Pepe and Connie (Jumera), Bobby, Bong and Dodie (Bautista), Charlie and Juliet (Camiring), Gui and Jimmy (Reyes), Ogie and PJ (Curacta), brothers, nieces, nephews, in-laws, grandchildren, and great grandchildren request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at #53 Scout Limbaga corner Scout Tuazon, Laging Handa, Quezon City (will be transferred to Amaya, Tanza, Cavite on Monday afternoon, July 22, 2002).

Interment will be on Tuesday, July 23, 2002 after the 2:00 PM Memorial Service at Sto. Rosario Parish Church, Amaya, Tanza, Cavite.

Our Beloved Daddy

QUINTIN M. JOSE

Joined our Creator on July 19, 2002 at the age of 78.

His remains lie in state at the Holy Trinity Memorial Chapels, Sucat, Parañaque City.

Interment will be on Wednesday, July 24, 2002 at 9:00 AM at Manila Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque City.

"...absent with the body to be present with the Lord" 2 Corinthians 5:8

MESSAGE OF THANKS

The bereaved husband **Protasio**;
children and in-law **Vivian**, **Franklin** and **Becky**, **Vicki**;
grandchildren **Zachary**, **Joni**, **Jodi**, **Joshua** and **Janina**;
living sisters **Remedios** and **Teresa**; her faithful ward **Jocelyn**;
and other relatives of the late

Trinidad Ramos Puno

who peacefully joined her Creator on 13 July 2002

wish to thank all who paid their last respects and
grieved with them, offered Masses and prayers,
sent flowers and messages of sympathy, kept vigil and
who in various generous ways gave them comfort at the time
of their great loss and sorrow.

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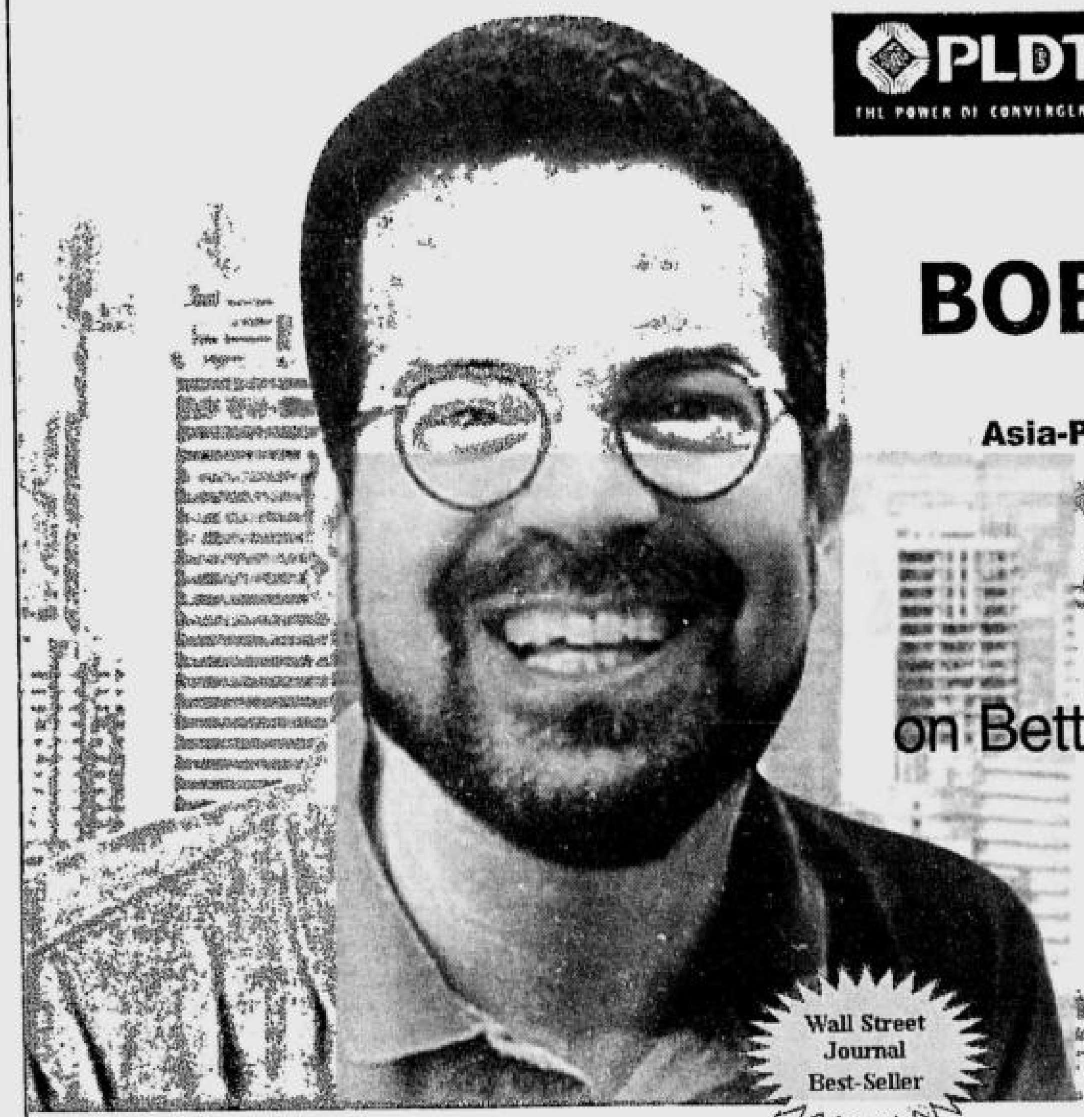

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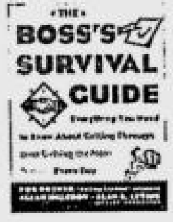

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ABOUT BOB:

BEST-SELLING AUTHOR, *Working Wounded: Advice That Adds Insight to Injury* (Warner Books 1998), *The Boss' Survival Guide* (McGraw Hill 2001); **SYNDICATED COLUMNIST**, San Francisco Examiner & Chronicle, New York Daily News, Los Angeles Times, and 100 other newspapers, including the Philippine Daily Inquirer; **TRAINOR/ SPEAKER** to corporations and associations in the US and other countries; **CREATOR,** award-winning web site, Forbes' Best of the Web 2000, www.workingwounded.com; **CONSULTANT,** Fortune 500 companies

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OBITUARIES

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
in You I trust, O my God.
Psalm 25 : 1

Prof. Elisa Tabuñar del Rosario

(May 18, 1916 - June 24, 2002)

The family of the late
Prof. Elisa T. del Rosario
deeply appreciate and
will always hold in grateful
remembrance your kind expression of sympathy.

"Daddy, your presence will be deeply missed, but the memories of your love and goodness will forever remain in our hearts."

LEONARDO CASTILLO AGUADO

Joined his Creator on July 20, 2002 at the age of 58.

His bereaved wife LETTY; children LEMUEL & ZENY, LILET, MAYETTE; grandchildren CAMILLE and AARON request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the Arlington Memorial Chapels, 12 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be on Thursday morning, July 25, at the Sto. Rosario Memorial Park, Taytay, Rizal.

Message of Thanks

We, the sisters and relatives of the late

JUANITA CORUÑA ELIZALDE

of Himigaran, Negros Occidental and Quezon City
who joined our Lord on 29 June 2002

wish to express our heartfelt gratitude to all of you, who during our time of bereavement, conduled with us, offered and said Masses, prayers and flowers; kept vigil and joined us in the interment.

May God love you always.

We will miss you Daddy! We love you very much!

Our Dearly Beloved

OSCAR VIZCARRA SOLIMAN

Peacefully joined his Creator on July 20, 2002
at the age of 58.

His loving wife **CHITA**; children **Kai**, **Ann-Ann**, **Dindo** and **Christy**, and **Theresa** (†); his mother **Laly**; sisters and brothers **Lourdes** and **Resty**, **Rene** (†) and **Maryann** (†), **Junior** and **Flor**, **Haydee** and **Freddie**, **Baby** and **Elly**, **Patty** and **Ronnie**, **Eric** and **Ninette**; brothers and sisters-in-law **Joey**, **Ino** and **Tessie**, **Gani** and **Chatty**; relatives and friends, request the pious readers to pray for the eternal rest of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the St. John Chapel, Holy Trinity Memorial Chapel, Sucat, Parañaque.

Interment will be on Friday, July 26, after the 12:00 nn Mass at Manila Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque.

FELISA ALDANA CASTILLO

of Pozorrubio, Pangasinan and Project 4, Quezon City,
Public School Teacher for 40 Years and
Widow of Schools Superintendent Constantino L. Castillo.

Peacefully joined her Creator on July 19, 2002
at the age of 85.

Her children **Constantino Jr.** and **Angie**, **Gresilda** and **Butch**, **Rolando** and **Tessie**, **Romeo** and **Julie**; and her grandchildren **Jojo** and **Carla**, **Kermin**, **Kathlyn**, **Louie**, **Richie**, **Michelle**, **Alex**, **Ben** and **David** request the pious readers to join them in prayers for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at La Funeraria Paz, G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be at Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina on date and time to be announced later.

First Death Anniversary

Atty. Dominador Cruz Sobreviñas

of Dinalupihan, Bataan and Jolo, Sulu

who died and joined his beloved wife **Luz P. Velez** on July 21, 2001.

His children and in-laws **Alfredo** and **Lourdes**, **Carmencita** and **James**, **Francis** and **Sylvia**, **Renato** and **Lucy**, **Aida** and **Milan**, **Luz Marie** and **Nor**, and **Josie** wish to announce that Masses will be offered today, July 21, 2002, at the following churches:

Church of St. John the Baptist, ... Dinalupihan, Bataan	6:00 AM
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Cathedral, ... Jolo, Sulu	6:00 AM
Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital Chapel, P. Sanchez, Manila	12:00 NN
Bancom Chapel, ... San Mateo, Rizal	7:30 AM
Monasterio de Sta. Clara, ... Katipunan, Quezon City	5:00 AM

His family requests relatives, friends and the pious reader to join them in praying for the eternal repose of his soul.

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

Always caring **INQUIRER OBITUARIES** **OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS:** ❶ Copy of Death Certificate ❷ Any identification document (I.D.)

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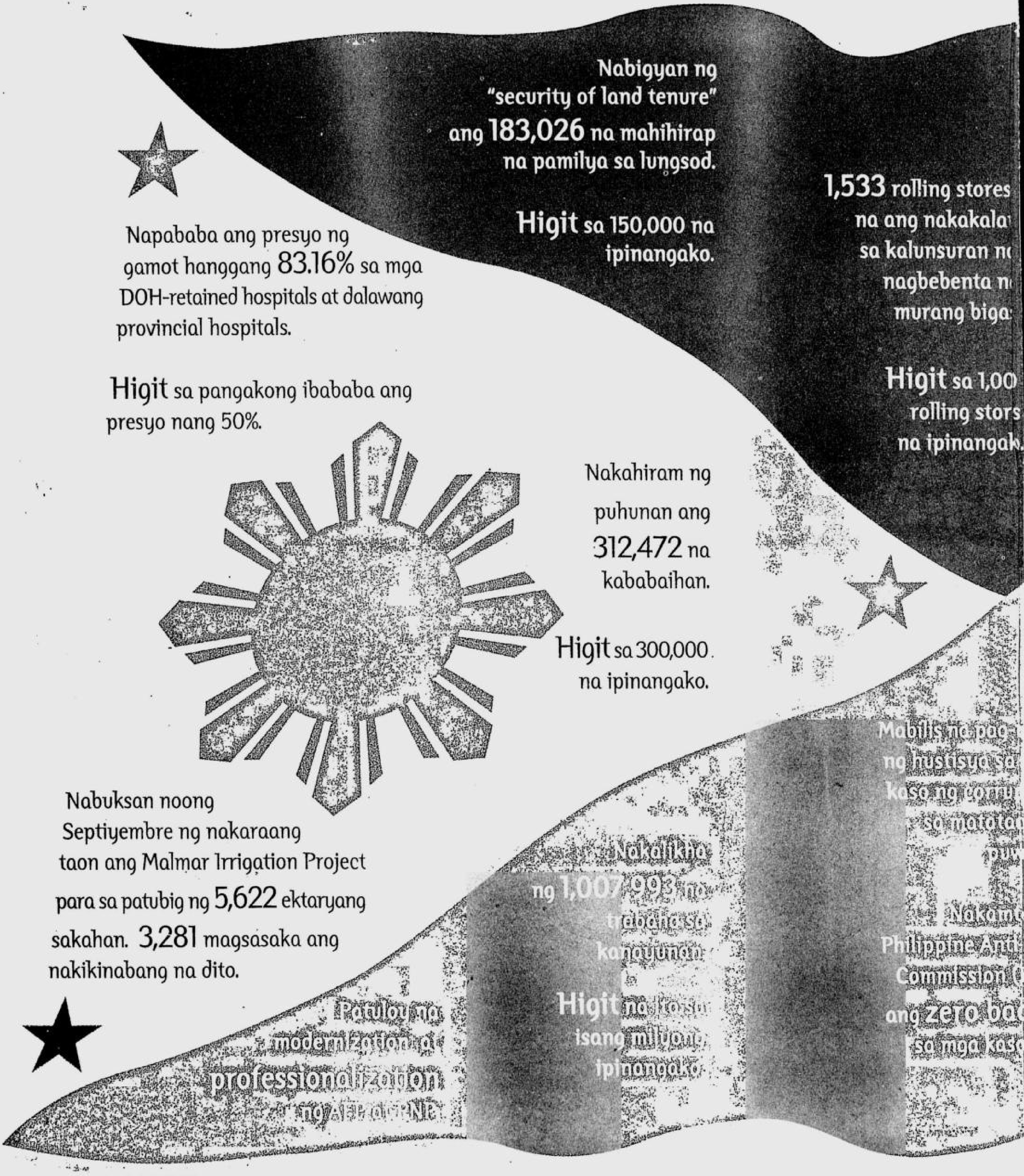

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Higit sa 150,000 na ipinangako.

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Higit sa 1,00
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na ipinangak.

Napababa ang presyo ng gamot hanggang 83.16% sa mga DOH-retained hospitals at dalawang provincial hospitals.

Higit sa pangakong ibababa ang presyo nang 50%.

Nakahiram ng puhunan ang 312,472 na kababaihan.

Higit sa 300,000 na ipinangako.

Nabuksan noong Septiyembre ng nakaraang taon ang Malmar Irrigation Project para sa patubig ng 5,622 ektaryang sakahan. 3,281 magsasaka ang nakikinabang na dito.

Patuloy na modernization at professionalization ng AFP at PNP

Nakalikha ng 1,007,993 na trabaho sa kanayunan.

Higit na [illegible] isang milyong ipinangako.

Mabilis na pag-
ng hustisya sa
kaso ng corru
sa matata
pu

Nakam
Philippine Anti
Commission
ang zero ba
sa mga kas

Kaya natin ang mga problemang hinahar
Sa katunayan, marami na tayong nabigyan n
Ito ang bunga ng pamahalaang buo ·

KAPAG BUO

G PANGARAP

Naseguro ang kalusugan ng 2.35 milyong mahihirap sa lungsod, at 1.86 milyong mahihirap sa kanayunan sa ilalim ng National Health Insurance Program.

Higit sa 500,000 na ipinangako.

Nagkaroon ng bahay ang 155,832 na pamilyang mahihirap.

Higit sa 150,000 na bahay na ipinangako.

Nagkaroon ng kuryente ang 1,513 barangay sa buong kapuluan.

Higit sa 1,500 na ipinangako.

116 na kidnap-for-ransom suspek ang ikinulong mula July-December 2001 at 84 pa ang nahuli mula January-June 2002.

Bukod sa natupad na pangakong 20,000 "emergency employment" para sa mga out-of-school youths (OSYs), nabigyan pa ng 2,902 OSYs ng livelihood and skills training at natulungan ang 1,128 na kabataan sa paghahanap ng trabaho.

54.3 milyong textbooks para sa limang "core subjects" ang nabili at magagamit na ng mga mag-aaral sa elementary at high school.

. Kaya nating maabot ang mga pangarap.
alutasan. Marami na ring nabuong pangarap.
ang loob. Matatag. Di watak-watak.

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Pangulong Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo

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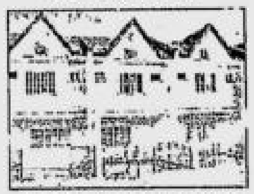

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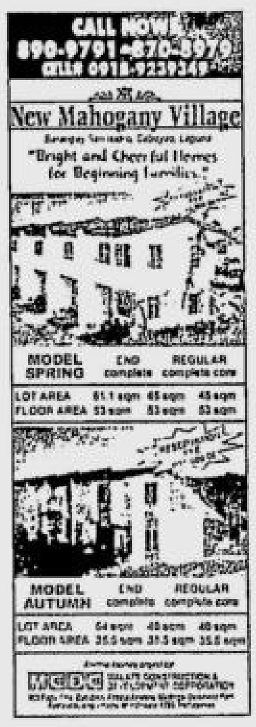

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LOT

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TALON LAS PINAS 204m^2 @4,500m^2 6873372 /6391694

MAKATI

MKT 353sqm P9.8M 8003222

MANILA

150sqm (15m L x 10m W) 2307 A. Aquino St., cor. A. Francisco St., Malate, Mla Call: 0916-3800070

Cataluna nr UST Espana 650m^2 DBO 0917-5320224

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PASIG

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HOUSE & LOT

PROVINCIAL

VARIOUS AREAS

LOT

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House - 53.25 sq.m.
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RIZAL

344sqm Filinvest Marcos Hway Antipolo 678-2417 - Lot

The Richdale No. I Subd in Antipolo 4T/m^2 6873372

SAN JUAN

Ghills East 1112m^2 w/ House DBO 0917-5320224

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LOT

PROVINCIAL

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T/Hse Nr. Ateneo 426-0189

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Teachers Vill 921-5797

Nr SM CITY P4500 9271821

SFDM 1&2br 10Tmo 3725866

HOUSE

PASIG

House 50sqm P4.5T 7284275

RIZAL

P30T/mo 5BR 3TB w/ cabinets, spool, Tel, garage, mds room Rudy 9135817

OTHER AREAS

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MAKATI

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CONDO/TWNHSE

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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

NELSON ORTALEZA

This is to inform the public that **Mr. NELSON ORTALEZA** of **Block 17 Lot 14 Acacia Homes, Burol 3, Dasmariñas, Cavite**, whose picture appears herein is no longer connected with **SUYEN CORPORATION** since November 15, 2001. Any transaction made or which he may, hereafter, undertake in behalf of **SUYEN CORPORATION** shall not be honored by it.

(PDI – July 21, 2002)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

CAESAR A. BAY-AG

This is to inform the public that **CAESAR A. BAY-AG**, a former Sales Supervisor of **CORD CHEMICALS, INC.** and whose picture appears above is no longer connected with the company. Effective immediately, any transaction entered into by the said individual in behalf of **CORD CHEMICALS, INC.** shall not be honored by the company. In the event that above employee comes to your store and collect, please do not pay. He is not authorized to collect for the company. When paying to any CORD representative, please demand for a provisional receipt. Payment without a PR or OR as proof of payment will not be considered paid.

CORD CHEMICALS, INC.
14 Arayat Street, Mandaluyong City

(PDI – July 21, 2002)

NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that **OVERDRIVE CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLY** owned and managed by Engr. Franklin H. Pag-ong has changed its name to **SILLIMAN AVENUE CONSTRUCTION and SUPPLY.**

PUBLIC NOTICES

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

EARN EXTRA INCOME 15T/W W/O LEAVING UR JOB Call/Txt 0920-2125551 ELVIE

•Travel N Earn From Home• Arlene 8531008 (0917)8901851

★"KAYA MONG MAGING MILLIONAIRE"...Attend business opportunity seminar 4 FREE 9264664•0919-8457226

Globe 268.50/Smart 268.50 7459351

I MAKE P500,000.00/mo
Needs People To Train
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Ideal for Clinic, Beauty-Barber Shop, Store 7000T 958 General Ave Proj. 8 QC T637-8624 • 0919-7454683

Kidswear consign 3738821

LOSE 5LBS UP/MO 8691108

Need Xtra P10T 8968691

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HEAVENLY PILLOWS
Bedroom Collections
visit: www.geocities.com/ heavenlypillows2002

Ofc/Sideline/Corp.Suits/ Cnsgnmnt Call 713-3290 Joy

Refilling Station US Eqpt Fast ROI 09202662123

Sales Commis'ns 364-7559

SEWING SUBCON
Wanted w/hi-speed
T 9241402/9264070/9294240

Supervisors P/F Time 8376068

Train For Success 0917-8371152

Travel & Earn From Home 6870963 / 0917-5319792

Work & Earn while at Home! Call: Mari 642-5695 M-F 9-5pm

ANNOUNCEMENT

FREE Care Giver Seminar [illegible]

INVITATION TO BID "AS IS WHERE IS"
Damaged Motor Vehicles

1999 Honda Civic 1.6/YJJ-888
1999 Toyota Corolla GIi/WJX-216
2000 Honda Civic 1.6/WNE-777
1999 Mitsubishi Lancer 1.6/WGV-246
Various Repairable Appliances

For particulars, call Philam Ins. Co., Inc./ Dick Cariño. Tel.# 75-43-457

TRAINING COURSES IN:
REFLEXOLOGY, SHIATSU & SWEDISH MASSAGE

Review course for Masseur Licensure exam (DOH). All instructors are DOH license. One month course with certificates of training.

D'MILLENIUM REFLEXOLOGY CENTER
Unit A-15 A. Tuazon Ave., San Roque, Marikina City
Te. 9347633 / 7121066 / 4576204
Look for Mhel, Jim or Jerry

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

PARTOLINS MANPOWER & EMPLOYMENT AGENCY, INC. WOULD LIKE TO INFORM THE PUBLIC THAT WE ARE IN THE PROCESS OF APPLYING AN INTERNATIONAL LICENSE IN PHILIPPINE OVERSEAS AND EMPLOYMENT ADMINISTRATION (POEA) FOR RECRUITMENT SERVICES, LAND BASED

PAMEA BOARD OF DIRECTORS:
LEONILA B. CORTEZ — PRESIDENT
VADIM PARTOLIN — VICE-PRESIDENT/CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
VERONICA C. NAMBIO — TREASURER/GENERAL MANAGER
NEIL F. NAMBIO — CORPORATE SECRETARY
ANALYN C. BATAC — BOARD MEMBER

FOR FURTHER INQUIRIES, YOU MAY CALL US AT TEL. # 6562403/ TELFAX # 6565651

UNIT 19 CLUSTER 12 BLISS FLEXIHOMES, ROSARIO, PASIG CITY

PUBLIC NOTICES

ANNOUNCEMENT

L&M MAXCO
Invites Qualified Suppliers and Subcontractors Look for Ting Angeles (Contracts/Purchasing Officer) Please call Tel. Nos.
8913653 to 56
Fax No. 891-3658

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is given that the estate of the late Orlando Romero was extrajudicially settled by his heirs before Consul Maria Lourdes B. Montero Consul of the Rep. of the Phils. per Fee Pd 25.00, O.R. No. 39906, Service No. 22001, Doc. No. 10615, Page No. 259, Series of 2002 (PDI - July 21, 28 Aug. 4, 2002)

NOTICE OF LOSS

Notice is given that the certificate of full payment No. 150 w/ Acct. No. 01-000202 issued by Scholarship Plans Phils. Inc. sponsored by Liwayway M. Engle was lost, thus declaring it null and void

PERSONAL

Free Bible Course by mail from USA. Please write your name & address to
WORLD BIBLE SCHOOL,
Dept PHP314, PO Box 2169,
Cedar Park, Texas 78613
www.wbschool.org
For prayers & counseling
[illegible] 0917 2560694.
Email mission@info.com.ph

PUBLIC NOTICES

PERSONAL

PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH

Oh, St. Joseph, whose protection is so great, so strong, so prompt before the throne of God. I place in you all my interest and desires. Oh, St. Joseph, do assist me by your powerful intercession, and obtain for me from your divine son all spiritual blessings, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. So that, having engaged here below your heavenly power, I may offer my thanksgiving and homage to the most loving of fathers. Oh, St. Joseph, I never weary contemplating you, and Jesus asleep in your arms; I dare not approach while He reposes near your heart. Press Him in my name and kiss His fine head for me and ask Him to return the Kiss when I draw my dying breath. St. Joseph, Patron of departing souls - Pray for me.

This prayer was found in the fiftieth year of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. In 1505 it was sent from the Pope to Emperor Charles when he was going into battle. Whoever shall read this prayer or hear it or keep it about themselves, shall never die a sudden death, or be drowned, nor shall poison take effect on them; neither shall they fall into the hands of the enemy, or shall be burned in any fire or shall be overpowered in battle. Say for nine mornings for anything you may desire. It has never been known to fail so be sure you really want what you ask.

NOVENA TO THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS AND SAINT JUDE

May the most Sacred Heart of Jesus be praised, blessed, loved, adored and glorified throughout the whole world now and forever. Amen.

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. Pray for us.

St. Jude, worker of miracles, helper for the helpless, pray for us.

Say nine times a day for nine days. Prayer will be answered by the eighth day, it has never failed.

Thank you very much. Most Sacred Heart of Jesus and St. Jude for favor granted.

People, Events & Products

Aries Espinosa, Editor aespinosa@inquirer.com.ph

Third Asean Insurance Congress program bared

THE ORGANIZING committee of the 3rd Asean Insurance Congress yesterday released the program for the event slated on Sept. 24 to 26 at the Dusit Hotel Nikko in Makati City.

Jaime C. Fernandez, president of the Philippine Life Insurance Association (Plia) and Victoria Roman-Flores, president of the Insurance Surety Association of the Philippines (Isap), the committee's co-chairs, announced that there will be five plenary sessions in the Congress.

Plenary Session I will present concepts such as globalization and liberalization and on the major important economic and environmental developments. Session II will discuss the updates on the Asean markets – life and non-life Insurance.

On the first day of the conference, there will be a panel discussion for life insurance on new products and consumer trends, and a non-life workshop on the "right price after Sept. 11, 2002."

On the second day of the conference, Session III will discuss the entry of foreign companies in Asean; Session IV, the role of IT in improving client services and marketing; and Session V, the road to the top – training future CEOs.

It will also include a panel discussion for life insurance on the use of alternative distribution channels and a non-life workshop on claims management and claims control.

The Asean Insurance Congress is the Asean Insurance Council's way of bringing together life and non-life insurance executives and practitioners, addressing the concerns of the insurance industry as well as enabling exchange of ideas and information among them.

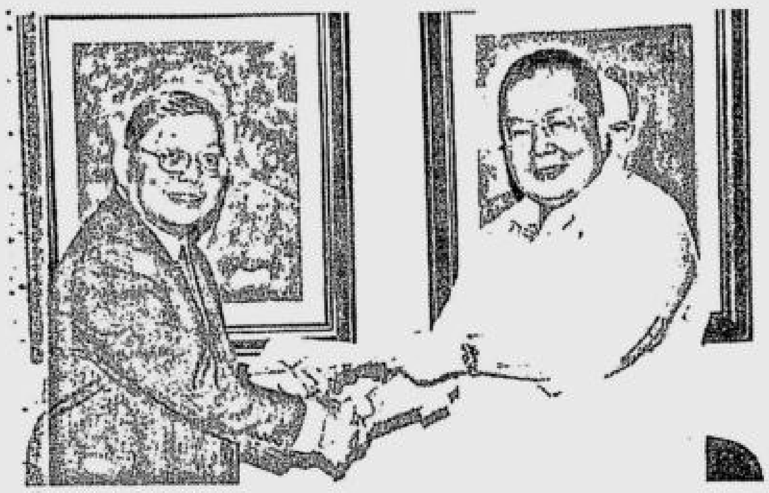
The Asean Insurance Council is composed of Brunei, Indonesia, Myanmar, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

The 3rd Asean Insurance Congress is under the auspices of the Philippine government's regulatory body, the Insurance Commission, and umbrella organizations Plia and Isap.

The first congress was held in 1994 in Bangkok, while the second was in 1997 in Malaysia. For more information, call Plia at 893-0311 or Isap at 813-8412.

FRAUD REDUCTION COURTESY OF MASTERCARD

As part of its Security and Risk Management Education Program, MasterCard International recently conducted a three-day seminar-workshop on Fraud Reduction (titled 'The Business of Fraud Reduction') for some of its member financial institutions in the Asia-Pacific region. The program aims to provide assistance to MasterCard members in dealing with issues in the area of security and risk management. 24 executives from several MasterCard member financial institutions in the Philippines, Indonesia, Thailand, and Korea and four law enforcement officers from the Philippines and Hong Kong attended the workshop held at the Makati Shangri-La Hotel. Among the products highlighted was Magneprint, which reduces the risk of skimming. MagTek and MasterCard International are joint technology partners of Magneprint.



PT&T SIGNS CONTRACT WITH CCP

PT&T and Central Colleges of the Philippines join hands in providing high-performance Internet access to the college's students via an on-campus Internet Access Center. The Center will be set up using PT&T's expertise in the field of ~~te~~lecommunications and will be powered by Green Dot, PT&T's latest broadband service offering. Shown sealing the deal with a handshake are (left) PT&T president and CEO Jose Luis Santiago and CCP president Crispin Reyes.

Mama Sita's Sinigang Mix now in 18-gram pack

MAMA Sita's Tamarind Seasoning Mix can now be savored in new, more affordable 18g. packs. One pouch can make a delightful *sinigang sa sampalok* dish equivalent to one liter of water.

Now available in retail and wet markets nationwide, Mama Sita's Tamarind Seasoning Mix is a distinctly fruity tamarind soup base powder made from fresh, real tamarind and spices that blend well with chilis. Its main ingredient, tamarind pulp, is rich in calcium, phosporous, iron, thiamine, riboflavin and niacin.

Manufactured by Marigold Commodities Corp., Mama Sita's Sinigang Mix is also available in 50g pack. For more of Mama Sita's Mixes and Sauces, visit www.msita.com or e-mail at info@msita.com.

ACE SAATCHI CREATIVITY ON A ROLL

The Philippine advertising industry has been quite successful lately in reaping acclaim in international ad competitions. And one of the advertising agencies that have been in the forefront of these award shows is Ace Saatchi & Saatchi. Through the years, Saatchi has been continuously raising the bar. All that handiwork continues to pay off with Saatchi's recent international wins—two of its works have been short-listed in the recent Clio Awards in Miami. These are posters for the Philippine Cancer Society's campaign for Prostate Cancer ('Barbed Wire') and for Bisolvon tablet ('Eject Phlegm'). Recently, the New York Festivals 2002 awarded Saatchi its 6th World Medal, for PCS' campaign for the terminally ill. A finalist certificate has also been awarded for Gabriela's campaign against spousal abuse. Shown, from left, are members of Saatchi's winning team Jerry Hizon (copywriter), James Bernardo (creative director), Merlee Cruz-Jayme (executive creative director), Sam Alapan (art director), Eugene Demata (art director), and Greg Martin (copywriter).

Bits 'n Clips

BayanTel callers get SM GCs

BAYAN Telecommunications Inc. residential subscribers in Metro Manila franchise areas with a minimum current long distance bill of P500 per statement of account are entitled to an SM gift cheque worth P100 in BayanTel's "Chika Cheque" promo. Offer is valid for statement of accounts with dates from May 23 to July 23. The last day of redemption of gift certificates from Metro Manila BayanCenters is Sept. 23. Call BayanServe at 412-1212 or visit the nearest BayanCenter in Metro Manila for details.

'The secrets of Karma'

MOST people are familiar with the word "karma", but there are a variety of misconceptions about it, especially on how it relates to relationships. BK Jayanti, an international lecturer, will be here in Manila to share the secrets of karma. BK Jayanti is the author of the "Mind Map" series of books, and is the international spokesperson of the Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University. Brahma Kumaris is a worldwide charitable non-government, non-political and non-religious organization working at all levels of society for positive change. On July 23, BK Jayanti talk on "Secrets of Karma" at The Ballroom. Mondragon House at Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Admission is free. For details, call Inner Space Makati at 890-7960 or 922-9231, or 521-2015 or 524-3489.

St. Stephen's High at 85

ST. STEPHEN'S High School at G. Masangkay Street, Sta. Cruz, Manila, celebrates its 85th founding anniversary on July 22. After more than 8 decades of educational service to Chinese-Filipino youth, SSHS stresses that up to this day, the Stephenian education aims to develop well-rounded, productive Christian citizens. According to the school, for one traveling on the information superhighway, a strong Christian faith rooted in God's word is essential to his ultimate goal of glorifying God. SSHS has enriched its curricular offerings to equip Stephenians with an added edge. Various competition in Chinese, English and Filipino are sponsored by the various school departments and student committees and clubs. Leadership trainings, scout camping and student camps provide various learnings and the development of effective interpersonal skills as well. By God's grace, and with the concerted efforts of the board of trustees, alumni, school personnel, students and parents, SSHS shall forever stand as a "school after God's own heart and a lighthouse in our community."

YEHEY SIGNS MATP MOU

New Horizons Computer Learning Centers Philippines and Yehey entered into a memorandum of understanding for the former to become a Macromedia Authorized Training Provider (MATP). Signing the contract are (from left) John Michael Bantolino, New Horizons general manager and Kevin Khoe, Yehey chief operating officer. Witnessing the signing, from left, are Sharon Prosbitero, Yehey account manager, Karen Torres, Yehey general manager for software sales, Andee de Guzman, New Horizons sales manager, and Sonny Planta, New Horizons sales manager. New Horizons Learning Centers is located at the 10th floor of Robinsons Summit Center, 6783 Ayala Avenue, Makati City, with telephone numbers 840-5000, 812-0298, 812-0203.

Finex risk management seminar

THE FINANCIAL Executives Institute of the Philippines (Finex) is inviting the general public to attend the seminar "Tools and Techniques for Risk Management" on July 24, Wednesday, 2 to 5:30 p.m. at the Bahia, 14th floor, Hotel Intercontinental Manila, Ayala Avenue, Makati. The keynote speaker is Jay Patel, vice president-global markets of the Deutsche Bank AG, Singapore. The topics include structured products, risk management, balance sheet restructuring, asset/liability management and fixed income and relative value research. For inquiries, call the Finex secretariat at 811-4184, 811-4186 and 811-4052, or e-mail ayviloria@finex.org.ph.

CONSTRUCTION COMMENCES

Officers of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (Tesda) and Asian College of Science and Technology (Acsat) and members of the educational community of Acsat-Cubao recently held the groundbreaking ceremony to launch the construction of Acsat Tower at 1013 Aurora Boulevard, Quezon City. Digging in are, from left, Gloria D. Sia, Acsat executive vice president, Norma L. Dela Cruz, Acsat-Cubáo faculty member, Eulogio P. Oderon, Acsat-Cubao school director, Constancio A. Sia, Acsat president, Dr. Amelia C. Biglete, director, CHED-NCR, Gemma Q. Rendon, director, TESDA-Quezon City, and Joseph P. Anonuevo, ECT student, Acsat-Cubao.

Product FILES

Spam ties up with Figaro

SPAM Spiced Ham, Hormel's banner product, together with Figaro Coffee Company's R&D department, concocted several Spam recipes to add flavor, tradition and nostalgia to Figaro's menu. Available now at Figaro's full menu stores for breakfast, lunch, merienda, and even dinner are Spam Alfredo, Spam Croque, Spam Benedict, Spam Salad Cones, Spam a la King, and Spam Bakes.

The most popular item is the Spam Croque, a hearty layered Spam and cheese sandwich toasted on a Panini grill. This goes very well with Figaro's brewed coffee or Figaro's special recipe Iced Tea.

Reena Francisco, head of Figaro's R&D, and Hilda Tolentino of Purefoods-Hormel brainstormed on the use of Spam in Figaro's menu.

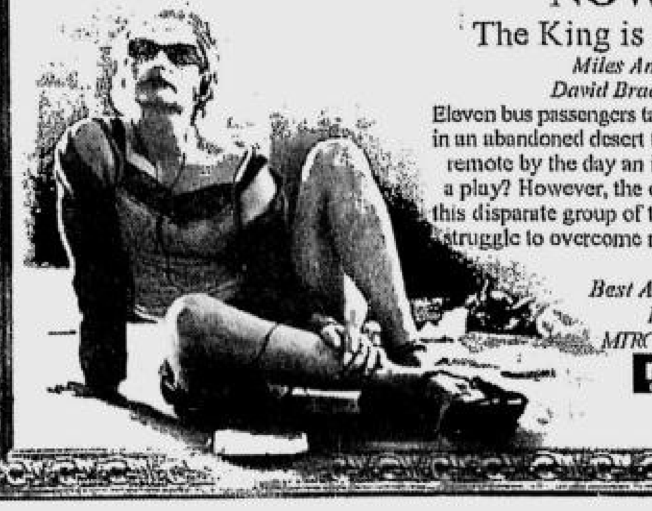
Figaro's Spam recipes put a European twist to this American icon. Spam a la King, a Spam spiced ham version of Chicken a la King.

Figaro is a homegrown coffee chain with over 25 locations and has also opened a store in Hong Kong recently. Check Figaro's website at www.figarocoffee.com.

AYALA CINEMAS

Discover ArtFilm Greenbelt 1

DARING, AWARD-WINNING, EXTRAORDINARY



NOW SHOWING

The King is Alive, July 10-16

Miles Anderson, Romane Bohringer, David Bradley & Jennifer Jason Leigh

Eleven bus passengers take shelter from the elements in an abandoned desert town. As rescue grows more remote by the day an idea emerges: why not stage a play? However, the choice of King Lear plunges this disparate group of travelers into turmoil as they struggle to overcome nature's wrath and their own mortality.

Best Actress (Leigh), 2000 Tokyo International Film Festival

MTRCB Rating: Restricted 18 (R)

NOKIA INQUIRER

SKYFILMS

MMTA

METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION

MOVIE GUIDE

NOW SHOWING

EMAIL: mmta@asia.com

Filinvest FESTIVAL CINEMA
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72

1 (DDS)	BIG FAT LIAR
2 (SDDS)	BAD COMPANY
3 (DTS)	HIGH CRIME
4 GOLD (DTS)	MINORITY REPORT
5 GOLD (DOLBY)	MEN IN BLACK 2
6 GOLD (SDDS)	MEN IN BLACK 2
7 GOLD (DOLBY)	THIRD WHEEL
8	FOREVERMORE
9	POWER PUFF GIRLS
10	KAPALIT

Pearl Plaza Cinemas
(Parañaque) tel. 853.4486

1	RESERVE
2	KAPALIT
3 (DTS)	RESERVE
4	RESERVE
5	RESERVE
6 (DTS)	RESERVE

Golden Pearl THX

Masagana CINEMA
TEL. 551 63 87

1	KAPALIT
2	MEN IN BLACK 2
3	ALL ABOUT BENJAMIN

starmall Movies
(Shaw Blvd.) tel 724.4986

1	HIGH CRIME
2	KAPALIT
3	TAMPISAW
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	MEN IN BLACK 2
5	FROUT IS SWELLING

METROPOLIS star
tel 850.4285

1	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
2	FOREVERMORE
3	SUGAT
4	MEN IN BLACK 2
5	KAPALIT
6	HIGH CRIME
7	
8	

PREMIERE CINEMA THX
(Makati City) TEL. 751-2010 TO 13

1	MEN IN BLACK 2

Center Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007

1	SUPER B
2	MINORITY REPORT

FCM FAIRVIEW CENTER MALL, INC
tel 930.9515

1	
2	KAPALIT
3	

Spring
(Libertad, Pasay City) tel 831.7864

1	JIHAD
A	HAPDI SA TAGINIT

Sunshine
(FTI, Taguig) tel 838.4301 loc. 3376

1	JIHAD WARRIOR
2	KAPALIT
3	TWO MUCH FLESH
4	RESERVE

GOTESCO CINEMA

Gotesco City
(Manila) tel 734.8588

1 (DOLBY)	MEN IN BLACK 2
2	
3	
4	MINORITY REPORT
5	BAD COMPANY
6	KAPALIT
7 (DTS)	HIGH CRIME
8 (SDDS)	MEN IN BLACK 2
9 (DOLBY)	THIRD WHEEL

Gotesco Caloocan
tel 362.3508

2	MEN IN BLACK 2

Gotesco Grand Central
(Caloocan) tel 364.3781

1	KAPALIT
2	FOREVERMORE
3	BAD COMPANY
4 (SDDS)	MEN IN BLACK 2
5	ALL ABOUT BENJAMIN
6 (DOLBY)	MEN IN BLACK 2
7 (DTS)	MINORITY REPORT
8	KATAWAN MO . . .
9	SUGAT

Gotesco Commonwealth
tel 951.0083

1 (DTS)	
2	
3	
4	FOREVERMORE
5 (SDDS)	MEN IN BLACK 2
6	KAPALIT
7 (DOLBY)	MEN IN BLACK 2
8	ALL ABOUT BENJAMIN

Gotesco Ortigas
tel 656.6795

1	MEN IN BLACK 2
2	KAPALIT
3 (DTS)	HIGH CRIME
4	FOREVERMORE
5 (SDDS)	MEN IN BLACK 2

Universal
(Manila) tel 733.2470

1	MEN IN BLACK 2

Sampaguita
(Cubao) tel 911.7888

1	MEN IN BLACK 2

Dilson
(Manila) tel 734.7724

Dilson Lords Jennet	HINOG SA PILIT

MARKETPLACE Mandaluyong
tel 533.3851 / 533.3856

1	MEN IN BLACK 2
2	KAPALIT
3	JUST VISITING

Prima
(Pasig) tel 641.1215

3	

Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto
SUPER CINERAMA
tel 733.4238

1 (DOLBY)	MEN IN BLACK 2
2	KAPALIT
3	FOREVERMORE
4	RESERVE
5	RESERVE

New Divisoria Mall
DIVISORIA CINEMA
tel 244.4619

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	

FRC Cinema
Talaba Bacoor Cavite

1	KAPALIT
2	RESERVE

Berma
TEL. 879 21 68 / 879 21 67

1	KAPALIT
2	MEN IN BLACK 2

CitiMall
(Parañaque) tel 820.7269

1	
2	

CINEMA 2000

Cinema 2000 Target Mall
(Sta. Rosa Laguna)
tel (049) 534.2185 / 534.2198

1	SUGAT
2	KAPALIT
3 (DTS)	MEN IN BLACK 2

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383

1	KAPALIT
2 (DTS)	HIGH CRIME
3 (DOLBY)	MEN IN BLACK 2
4	BIG FAT LIAR

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Biñan) tel (049) 411.1146

1	KAPALIT
2 (DOLBY)	MEN IN BLACK 2
3 (DTS)	HIGH CRIME
4	BIG FAT LIAR

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771

1	SCOOBY DOO
2	MEN IN BLACK 2
3	THE SUM OF ALL FEARS
4	

Cinema 2000 MetroTown
(Tarlac) tel(045) 982.1729

1	LIFE OR SOMETHING . . .
2	SLACKERS
3 (DOLBY)	MEN IN BLACK 2
4 (DTS)	SCOOBY DOO

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276

1 (SDDS)	MEN IN BLACK 2
2	RESERVE
3	KAPALIT
4 (DTS)	SUGAT

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202

1 (DOLBY)	MEN IN BLACK 2
2	KAPALIT
3 (DTS)	HIGH CRIME
4	BIG FAT LIAR
5	SUGAT

Olivarez Tri-Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.8883

1	KAPALIT
2	MEN IN BLACK 2
3	SUGAT

Olivarez Los Baños
tel (049) 249-2558

1	MEN IN BLACK 2
2	HIGH CRIME
3	KAPALIT

Olivarez Tagaytay
tel (046) 413.0311

CLOSED FOR RENOVATION

1	
2	
3	

Morales Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.9736

1	
2	
3	

Cabuyao
(Laguna City) tel (049) 531.4808

1 (DTS)	SUGAT
2 (DTS)	RESERVE

Fourstep
(Cavite) tel (046) 416.2385

1	

Emperor
(Rosario Cavite) tel (046) 438.1657

1	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
2	KAPALIT
3	FOREVERMORE

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790

1	MEN IN BLACK 2
2	HIGH CRIME
3	MEN IN BLACK 2
4	KAPALIT

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03

1 (DOLBY EX)	MEN IN BLACK 2
2	SLACKERS
3 (DTS)	MEN IN BLACK 2
4	POWER PUFF GIRLS

*Movies are subject to change without prior notice

ADVANCED SCREENING THX DOLBY dts SDDS

THX
CMO INTERNATIONAL

PREMIERE CINEMA

NOW SHOWING

BACK IN BLACK

MIIB

SM CINEMA

SM Dial-A-Movie Tel. 633-9999

NOW SHOWING

SM CITY BACOOR
4173888

1	BAD COMPANY
2	POWERPUFF GIRLS
3	MEN IN BLACK II
4	MINORITY REPORT
5	MEN IN BLACK II
6	KAPALIT
7	HIYAS SA PARAISO
8	FOREVERMORE

SM CENTERPOINT
7149522 -7161416

1	MEN IN BLACK II
2	THIRD WHEEL
3	MEN IN BLACK II
4	POWER PUFF GIRLS
5	KAPALIT
6	FOREVERMORE
7	MINORITY REPORT
8	THE SUM OF ALL FEARS
9	HIGH CRIMES
10	HIYAS SA PARAISO

SM CITY FAIRVIEW
9350749

1	KAPALIT
2	HIGH CRIMES
3	POWERPUFF GIRLS
4	THIRD WHEEL
5	MEN IN BLACK II
6	FOREVERMORE
7	MINORITY REPORT
8	MEN IN BLACK II
9	BAD COMPANY
10	BIG FAT LIAR
11	HIYAS SA PARAISO
12	KAPALIT

SM CITY MANILA
5239240

1	HIGH CRIMES
2	MEN IN BLACK 2
3	SLACKERS
4	THIRD WHEEL
5	MINORITY REPORT
6	MEN IN BLACK II
7	BIG FAT LIAR
8	HIYAS SA PARAISO
9	MEN IN BLACK 2
10	FOREVERMORE
11	KAPALIT
12	POWERPUFF GIRLS

SM MEGAMALL
6331901 • 6329401

1	MEN IN BLACK II
2	BIG FAT LIAR
3	MEN IN BLACK II
4	MINORITY REPORT
5	THIRD WHEEL
6	HIGH CRIMES
7	POWERPUFF GIRLS
8	SUM OF ALL FEARS
9	KAPALIT
10	MEN IN BLACK II
11	FOREVERMORE
12	HIYAS SA PARAISO

SM CITY NORTH EDSA
9295452

1	HIGH CRIMES
2	MEN IN BLACK II
3	KAPALIT
4	FOREVERMORE
5	POWERPUFF GIRLS
6	THIRD WHEEL
7	MINORITY REPORT
8	MEN IN BLACK II

SM SOUTHMALL
8006888

1	THIRD WHEEL
2	BAD COMPANY
3	MEN IN BLACK II
4	HIGH CRIMES
5	SUM OF ALL FEARS
6	FOREVERMORE
7	KAPALIT
8	MEN IN BLACK II
9	MINORITY REPORT
10	POWERPUFF GIRLS

SM CITY CEBU
2313878

1	MEN IN BLACK II
2	A WALK TO REMEMBER
3	SLACKERS
4	KAPALIT
5	FOREVERMORE
6	RESIDENT EVIL
7	MINORITY REPORT
8	MEN IN BLACK II

SM CITY ILOILO
3208422

1	TAMPISAW
2	CLOSED
3	RESIDENT EVIL
4	MEN IN BLACK II
5	SLACKERS
6	MEN IN BLACK II
7	CLOSED
8	MINORITY REPORT

SM CITY PAMPANGA
7128015

1	MEN IN BLACK II
2	MEN IN BLACK II
3	POWER PUFF GIRLS
4	FOREVERMORE
5	SLACKERS
6	KAPALIT

SM SUPER CTR. SUCAT
8294975

1	HIGH CRIMES
2	MEN IN BLACK II
3	MEN IN BLACK II
4	KAPALIT

SM CINEMA TUTUBAN
2514302

1	MEN IN BLACK II
2	KAPALIT
3	FOREVERMORE
4	HIGH CRIMES

SM CITY DAVAO
2976998

1	MEN IN BLACK II
2	A WALK TO REMEMBER
3	RESIDENT EVIL
4	BAD COMPANY
5	MEN IN BLACK II
6	MINORITY REPORT

SM BICUTAN

1
2
3
4

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4 NEW
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VISION & SOUND

SM CITY CAGAYAN DE ORO

1
2
3
4

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2	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION

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3	POWER PUFF GIRLS
4	THIRD WHEEL
5	KAPALIT
6	MEN IN BLACK II
7	MINORITY REPORT
8	HIGH CRIME
9	LIFE OR SOMETHING . . .
10	BAD COMPANY

Ermita 536 -7809- 12

1	MEN IN BLACK II
2	POWER PUFF GIRLS
3	HIGH CRIME
4	THIRD WHEEL
5	KAPALIT
6	MEN IN BLACK II
7	MINORITY REPORT

Metro East - Marcos hway 682- 8193 / 8280

1	THIRD WHEEL
2	MEN IN BLACK II
3	HIGH CRIME
4	MINORITY REPORT
5	MEN IN BLACK II
6	LIFE OR SOMETHING . . .
7	POWERPUFF GIRLS
8	KAPALIT

Novaliches 935- 3229 - 30

1	MEN IN BLACK II
2	THIRD WHEEL
3	LIFE OR SOMETHING . . .
4	HIGH CRIME
5	POWER PUFF GIRLS
6	KAPALIT
7	MINORITY REPORT
8	FOREVERMORE

Imus 471- 8188 / 875- 3838

1	MEN IN BLACK II
2	MEN IN BLACK II
3	THIRD WHEEL
4	MINORITY REPORT
5	KAPALIT
6	HIGH CRIME

Bacolod 441- 0453 / 0459

1	MEN IN BLACK II
2	POWER PUFF GIRLS
3	FOREVERMORE
4	EMELIE
5	HARDBALL
6	BAD COMPANY

Iloilo 336- 8077 - 78

1	MEN IN BLACK II
2	KATAWAN
3	SLACKERS
4	LIFE OR SOMETHING . . .
5	TAMPISAW
6	BAD COMPANY

Star Mills- Sn Fernando, Pamp. 875- 1927
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3	KAPALIT
4	MEN IN BLACK II
5	SLACKERS
6	

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Mushroom growing is boon for Pangasinan farmers

By Yolanda Fuertes
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

ROSALES, Pangasinan—Time was when after a thunderstorm, the adventurous among us would scour the fields and the forests for edible mushrooms. But these days, if one wants mushrooms, one can merely open a can.

In this agricultural town, farmers have turned to mushroom culture to augment their income and provide fresh mushrooms to gourmands.

Members of the Balikatan Farmers Multipurpose Cooperative in Barangay San Angel here are also marketing mushroom fruiting bags so that consumers can cultivate edible mushrooms in their homes.

Venancio Abalos, the general manager, says the cooperative originally propagated *kabuting saging* (*Volvariella volvacea*) but the lack of dried banana leaves on which to grow this type of mushroom made them shift to growing it on bags instead.

ABALOS and his mushrooms.

"In December last year, we decided to adopt the fruiting bag technology, and since then we can hardly cope with the demand," Abalos, 47, says.

The fruiting bags (6-feet long with 14-inch diameter) are made of composted sawdust (78 percent), rice bran (20 percent), calcium carbonate or lime (one percent) and refined sugar (one percent).

The ingredients are mixed thoroughly with a little water, piled in a pyramid then covered with plastic for five days. On the third and the fifth day, the mixture is exposed to air to remove toxic gases.

After three hours on the fifth day, the mixture is put in a plastic bag, which is closed with an inch-long plastic pipe plugged with cotton and paper to prevent moisture from seeping into the bag during sterilization.

The bags are sterilized (an autoclave is needed for sterilization) for three hours, cooled, then planted with spawns of the oyster mushroom (*Pleurotus ostreatus*).

"You just put the bags in a dark area, such as a corner in the kitchen, wait for 12-15 days (when white molds have appeared) and you're ready to harvest your mushroom," Abalos says.

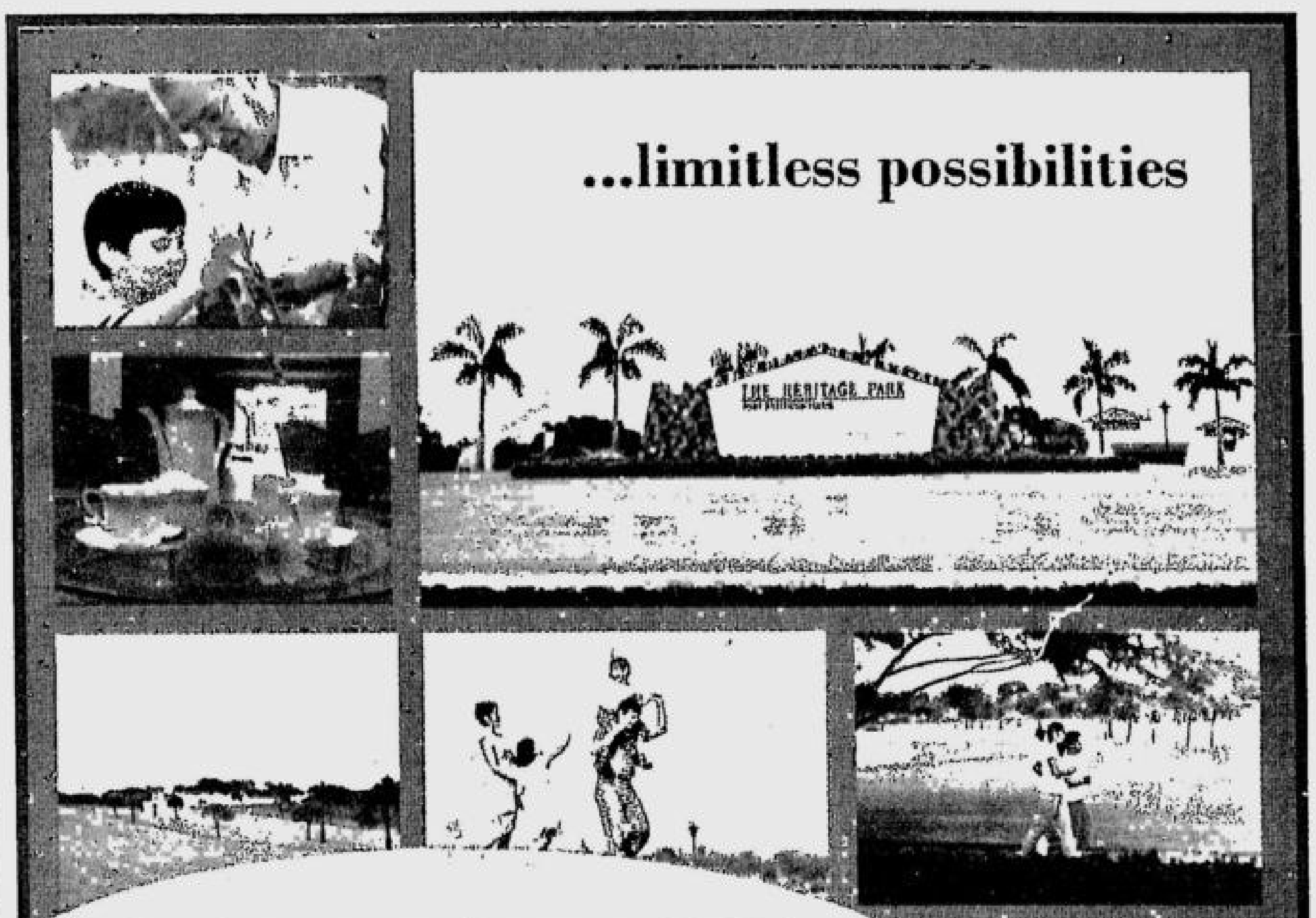
Within two months, a bag, which costs P15 each, can yield 250 grams of oyster mushrooms that usually sells for P150 a kilo.

He explains that if a mushroom enthusiast wants to manufacture his own bags, he can ask the cooperative for training on the process and just buy the spawn from the group. Or, if he wants to produce his own spawn, the cooperative can also train him on mushroom tissue culture.

Abalos says the cooperative is ready to share the technology to anyone who is interested to go into the mushroom cultivation business.

The cooperative was established to provide livelihood for Rosales farmers who usually have

MUSHROOM/ B2



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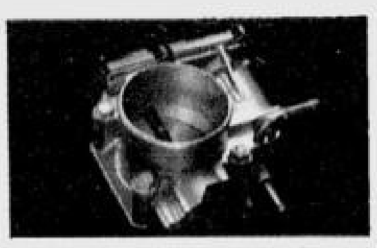
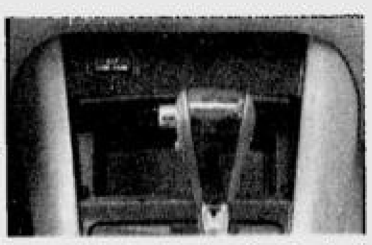
The ABS for safer braking performance and its added Electronic Brake-force Distribution feature for better vehicle control.
Also, the Brake Assist provides extra stopping power. Certainly, the new Camry does have what it takes to lead.

VVT-i (Variable Valve Timing-intelligent) ENGINE • This revolutionary engine brings exceptional torque and quick acceleration with low fuel consumption.



ETCS-i (Electronic Throttle Control System-Intelligent) • Throttle adjustments are made immediately for improved engine response.



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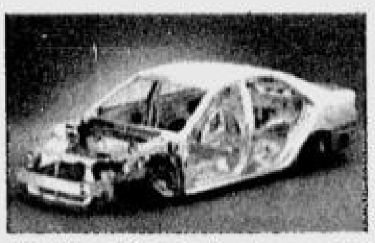
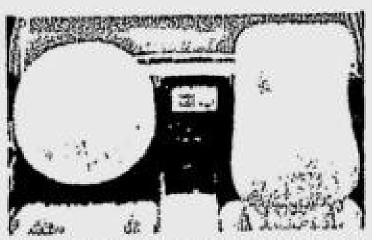
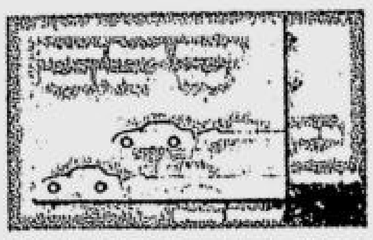


GOA (Global Outstanding Assessment) BODY • GOA body provides passive safety against collision impact.



DUAL FRONT AIRBAGS • In case of a frontal collision, Dual Front Airbags supplement the protection given by seatbelts by decreasing the impact on the occupants' head and chest.



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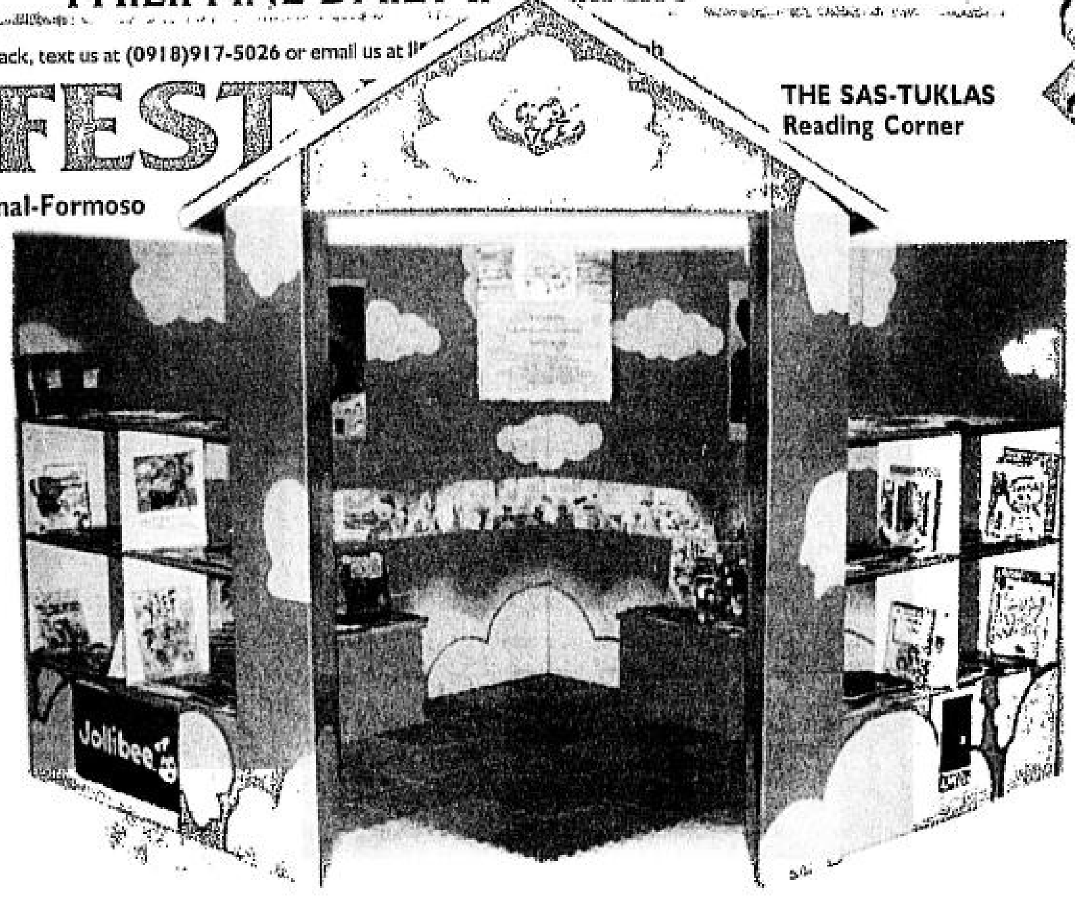
Sunday LIFESTYLE

Editor Chelo Banal-Formoso

The nook and cranny of reading



THE SAS-TUKLAS Reading Corner

A corner of Marikina is devoted to remedying the cause of the country's increasing illiteracy—lack of reading habit among young Filipinos

By Alex C. Paita

"ILLITERACY" will be dropped from Marikina City's vocabulary—soon.

With a dynamic Sa Aklat Sisikat (SAS) Reading Program, which has been underway in its 17 public schools since January, the city is redefining itself from "the city that makes shoes" to "the city that reads."

An addition to the program is the SAS Tulong Kaalaman Senter (Tuklas) Reading Corner, a "unique modular literacy nook" that was unveiled by Marikina Mayor Marides Fernando and SAS Foundation on July 12 at the L. Victorino Elementary School (LVES).

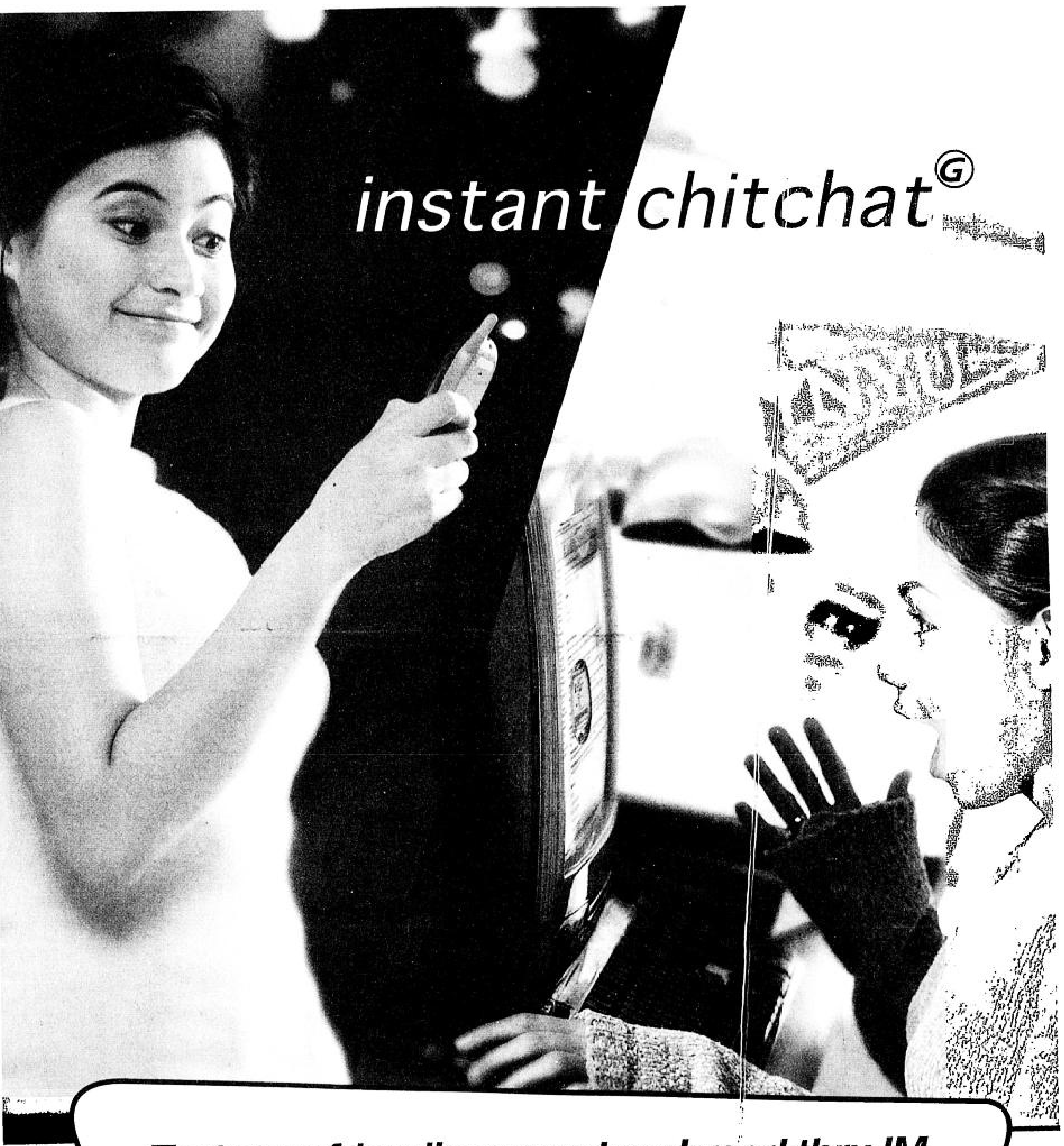
The SAS-Tuklas Reading Corner is designed to complement the SAS reading program. It is given as a reward to the SAS partner public elementary schools in Marikina for complying with all the requirements of the program.

"Each of the 17 public elementary schools in this city will be a recipient of this Reading Corner, which, we hope, will be put to good use by thousands of school children," says Margarita L. Delgado, president of SAS Foundation Inc. "SAS wants to build a nation of readers because we strongly believe that we are giving the next generation a fighting chance."

The Reading Corner, installed at the library of the LVES, is a creatively designed module that provides children a comfortable space to explore books. A variety of children's literature storybooks, which promote the values of identity, pride, commitment and excellence,

THE NOOK/ p.C6

SA Aklat Sisikat president Margarita L. Delgado



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Writer: Dr. Alejandro V. Pineda, Jr.
Executive Secretary - Philippine Academy of Family Physicians, Inc.
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Chairman - Department / Division of Preventive, Family & Community Medicine, UST Faculty of Medicine & Surgery UST Hospital
Associate Professor II - UST Faculty of Medicine & Surgery
Active Rotating Medical Staff: UST Hospital & Family Clinic, Inc. Hospital

SHOW HER YOUR HARD MUSCLES!
Exercise and Sex

When you were 18, you felt as if your sex drive was so strong that your head would explode. Now that you're 40 or 50-something, is your sex drive just as volatile?

There are many ways of improving one's sexual health. Aside from changing lifestyle, or taking medications prescribed by doctors, exercising has also been proven to be beneficial.

The health benefits of life long exercise are well recognized. Exercise is proven to improve stamina, build muscle tone, strengthen the cardiovascular system, increase life expectancy, improve social contacts, enhance self-esteem and most probably, heat up your sex life.

Multiple studies have shown that regular exercise boosts mood and energy levels of most middle-aged men. A study in UCLA reported that when a group of men exercised strenuously for an hour 3 days a week for 9 months - they had a jump in sexual desire, fewer sexual problems and more pleasure from orgasm. Another study from the University of California-San Diego put 78 middle-aged men on an aerobic exercise program. The men were requested to exercise at moderate intensity for 60 minutes a day, 3-4 days a week. After 9 months, they were reported to have more satisfying sex and orgasms as well: For comparison, the study also had 17 other men tested. They worked out at a less intense level; they walked at a relatively slower pace. After the same period, test results revealed no improvement in sexual activity.

In the Harvard School of Public Health, a study was conducted and resulted in the same conclusions. Researchers also found out that as men gained weight, they became more susceptible to experiencing erectile dysfunction (ED).

Why is exercise found to be some form of an aphrodisiac? Well, experts give several reasons why.

Since sex is a whole body experience, it makes perfect sense that you'll enjoy it more if you keep your muscles, blood vessels and nerves performing at peak levels.

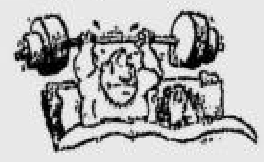
Fit people are less likely to tire during sex. Improved muscle tone may heighten sexual pleasure, simply because orgasms depend on muscle activity.

Older men may gain a lot from exercise. It improves cardiovascular fitness that's crucial for sexual functioning, and raises libido by increasing testosterone levels (testosterone levels wane as men grow older).

Sex is as much mental as it is physical. The more active older men are sexually, the higher their self-esteem. At the same time, their partners or spouses feel more attractive.

Current guidelines published by the American College of Sports Medicine recommended a balanced exercise program including components of aerobic, muscle strengthening and stretching activities. Said recommendations are intended for the healthy individual in order to promote, maintain and improve overall health and physical fitness.

While the greatest benefits are found in those who have maintained an active physical activity program throughout their life, individuals who institute exercise even in late life do show significant positive health outcomes. The quantity of effect and health benefit is directly proportional to the frequency, intensity and duration of exercise.



Ask your doctor about a nutrition and exercise program you can follow. Ask him if you're fit enough to work out at a nearby gym. The instructor there can design a plan specifically for you, so you can tone and maximize those sleeping muscles.

You can also take up physical activities that you used to do or activities you'd like to take up now that you have more time. Go swimming, play a few sets of tennis, try bowling, basketball or even golf. As it is now recognized that even low levels of exercise can result in significant health benefits - initiating a program with multiple, short episodes of low level activity throughout the day such as walking may provide an attainable alternative to scheduled workout periods.

Just follow all of the tips we mentioned religiously and after a few months, you'll look better. And when you look better, you'll feel a lot better about yourself. And the better you feel, the better you perform... sexually.

So who says you're too old for exercise. Get physical right now!

Sources:

* Men's Fitness Magazine, June 2002 "Break out of your Sex Slump: Seven Ways to conquer your sagging libido" by J. L. Sullivan
* Healthtrack, McGraw-Hill Companies, Jul/Aug 1997 "Feeling Fit Heightens Bedroom Bliss"
* ACE Fit Facts, American Council on Exercise "Studying Sex and Exercise"
*Health Watch, A public service Office News and Publications, Library of UT Southwestern Medical Center of Dallas "Exercise and your Sex Life" - Oct 2002

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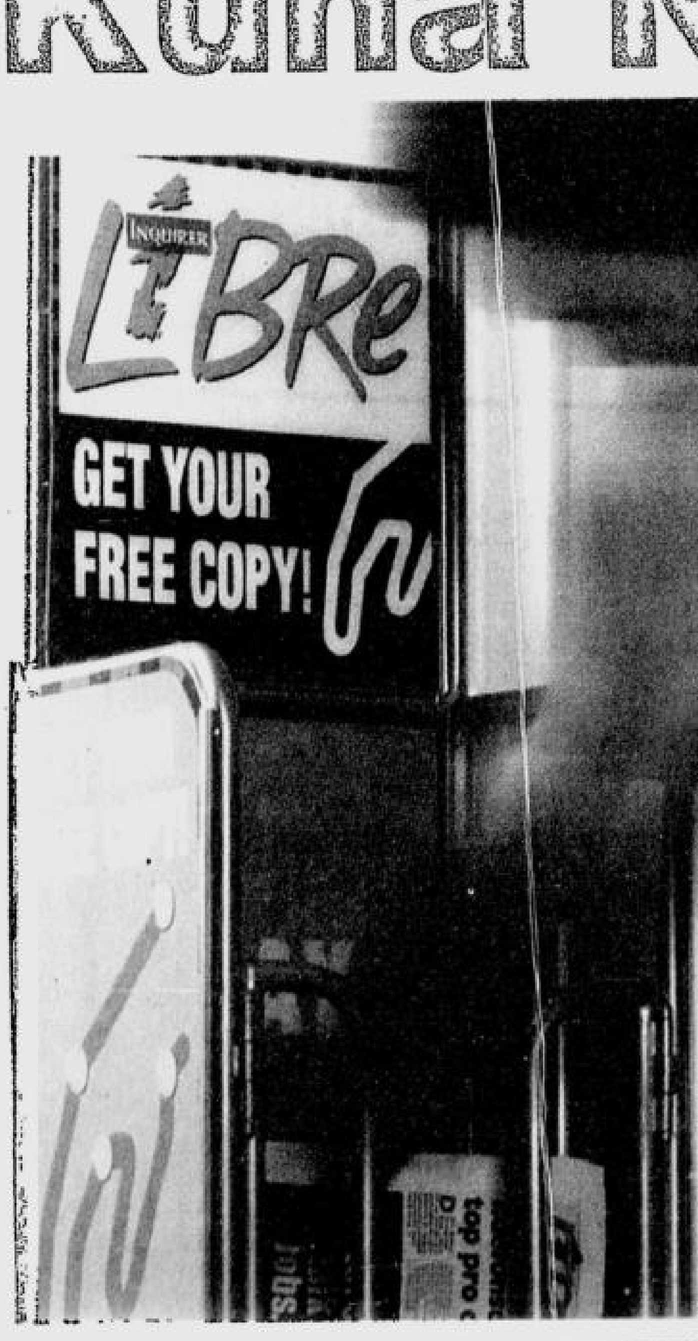

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MRT stations: North Avenue, Quezon Avenue, GMA Kamuning, Cubao, Shaw, Boni, Guadalupe, Magallanes at Taft

LIBRE
The best things in life are Libre

KAREN Davila reads the story of "Let Mother Earth Smile Again" by Clarissa Mae Clarete of the College of the Holy Spirit.

Tales celebrities tell

BROADCAST journalist Karen Davila, actor Jao Mapa and comedian Tessie Tomas donned their storyteller's hat recently to tell magical nature stories to a group of children at various Kidz Stations all over Metro Manila. The stories were from RCBC's collection of prize-winning nature stories entitled, "Kwentong Kalikasan, Katha ng Kabataan."

The event was organized by Young Advocates and Kidz Station, a toy store that sells fun and learning at the same time, as a way to educate children while entertaining them.

For this project, Kidz Station worked hand-in-hand with Young Advocates, a non-profit government organization that aims to encourage good fellowship between the youth and the environment.

JAO Mapa narrates the tale of "Ang Tatlong Magkakaibigan" by Vanessa Tadique of Francisco Elementary School at Robinsons Metro East.

TESSIE Tomas reads "Muning" by Ma. Alina Co of St. Paul College at Kidz Station in Rockwell.

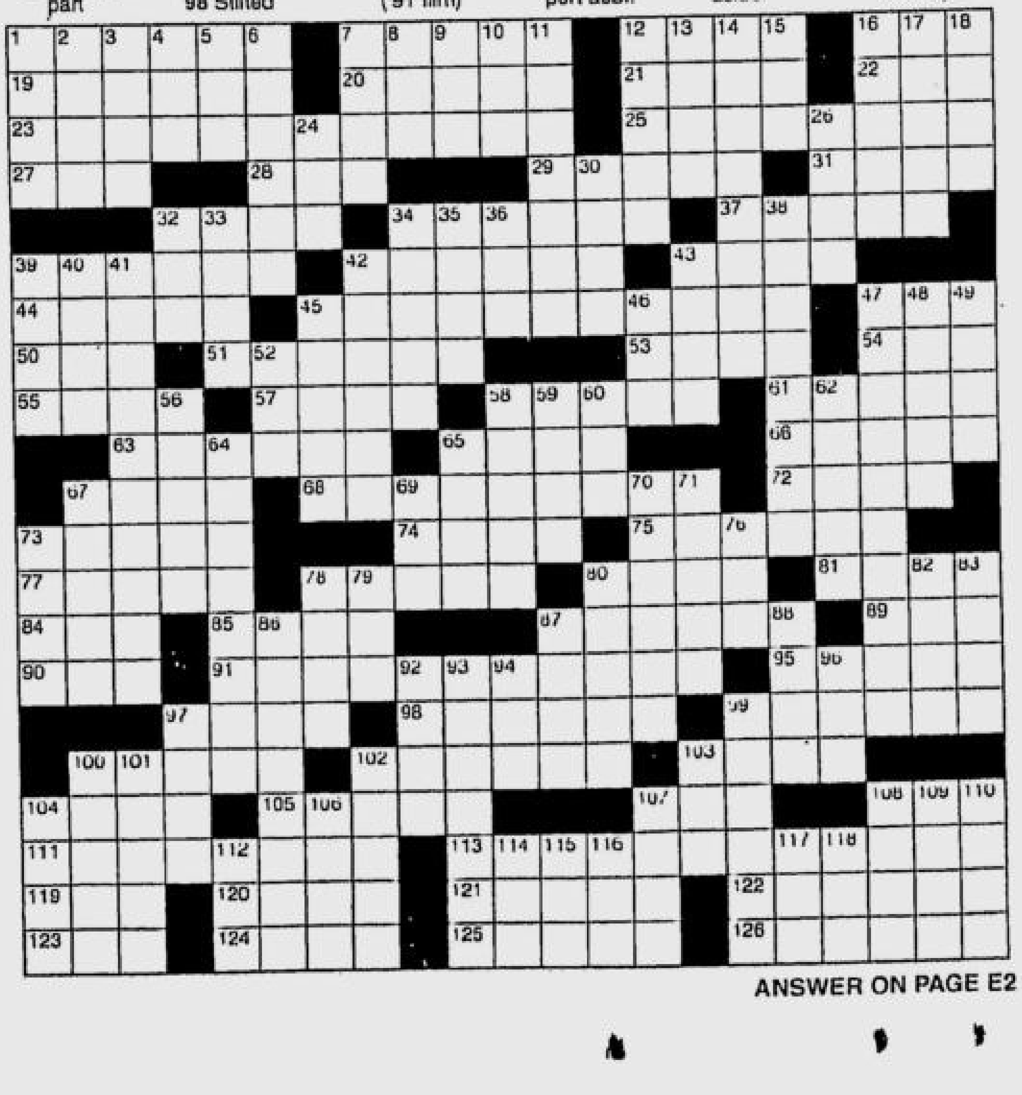
SUNDAY CROSSWORD

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Donna J. Stone

ANAGRAMS

ACROSS
1 Yankee Jorge
7 Pool shot
12 Dictates
16 Make cheddar better
19 Diverted
20 Cara or Castle
21 Tennis pro Nastase
22 New Deal agcy.
23 SLOT MACHINES
25 Traces
27 Paleozoic —
28 Aye opponent
29 Remove
31 Artist Mondrian
32 Prepare pancakes
34 Sewed a toe
37 Ruhr Valley city
39 Victorian ornaments
42 Capitol gang?
43 Loyal
44 Maine town
45 HMS PINAFORE
47 Drill sergeant's shout
50 "O Sole —"
51 Advantage
53 Drainpipe part
54 New Haven collegian
55 Prohibits
57 Coup d'—
58 Opening remark?
61 Automaton
63 Halloween decoration
65 Content completely
66 Let out the lava
67 Comic Laurel
68 DORMITORY
72 Philosopher
73 Got wind of
74 Commanded
75 Lions and tigers and bears
77 Concur
78 Condescend
80 Finish filming
81 "Good gracious!"
84 Woody herb
85 Fiber source
87 Connected
89 "— pro nobis"
90 Part of MPH
91 ENDEARMENTS
95 Snowy fisherman
97 — vu
98 Stilted
99 Singer Stratas
100 Garden tool
102 Last name in fashion
103 Act catty?
104 Put on a happy face
105 Hold fast
107 Clerical garb
108 Luau neckwear
111 Siberian monk
113 THE MORSE CODE
119 Qty.
120 Golfer Ballesteros
121 A great composer?
122 Lacking principles
123 Salon supply
124 Paradise
125 TV exec Arledge
126 Bean

DOWN
1 Wear out the carpet
2 Actor Epps
3 Iranian city
4 Timber tree
5 Tierra — Fuego
6 Classical hunk?
7 "— Slickers" ('91 film)
8 White House spokesman Fleischer
9 Stimpy's pal
10 "Johnny — Note" ('37 song)
11 Keepsake
12 Enraged
13 One of the Waughs
14 Showy shrub
15 Jell
16 Actress Harmon
17 Word with tea or pepper
18 — India Company
24 Fool
26 "— dixit"
30 Swerve
32 Marsh
33 Crochet unit
34 Resign
35 Without — (daringly)
36 Brit. fliers
38 Hold back
39 Fowl feature
40 "Turandot" tune
41 ASTRONOMER
42 Pay hike?
43 "Comin' — the Rye"
45 Prominent
46 Missouri airport abbr.
47 GEORGE BUSH
48 Take the honey and run
49 See 104 Down
52 Chianti color
56 Show mercy
58 "Surprise Symphony" composer
59 Raison d'—
60 August one?
62 Spout like Cicero
64 Beholden
65 Forest father
67 Smooth transition
69 Slugger's stat
70 Edmond of "The Barefoot Contessa"
71 Capital
73 — seal
76 "Tarzan" extra
78 Actor Ashbrook
79 Complete
80 Lawrence's "— in Love"
82 Olympic warmonger
83 Base stuff?
86 Tossed aside
87 Jewelry material
88 "The — Hunter" ('78 film)
92 Actor McGregor
93 More turbulent
94 Scand. nation
96 Weimaraner's warning
97 Clammy
99 Abolitionist Harriet
100 Disreputable
101 Ersatz emerald
102 It may suit you
103 Arafat's grp.
104 With 49 Down, "Spy Game" star
106 Reside
107 43,560 square feet
108 Feudal superior
109 List ender
110 Vacation location
112 Manipulate
114 Ike's domain
115 Sweater letter
116 Sundown, to Shelley
117 Comic Philips
118 TV's "Scooby- —



ANSWER ON PAGE E2

'Doubting Thomas' gets proof he needs

PURELY PERSONAL

Josephine Darang

A FEW years ago, when Lorna Gonzales asked Boy Ponce to help change the vestment of the Sto. Niño de Providencia, she did not know that Boy doubted the authenticity of the flow of oil from the image.

In November 1999, Boy drove to the Sto. Niño Chapel on Pijuan Street at BF Resort Village in Las Piñas. He was thinking that he would now know if there was a hole somewhere in the image from which oil was flowing. He brought his worker, Lando, to help him.

The two men removed the old clothes of the image and began to clean the image, removing the dirt that has stuck to the wooden base. They scraped and cleaned the image with a wet towel. Then, using a dry towel, began to wipe the image dry. Boy did not see any hole. They put on the new vestments of the Sto. Niño. It was when Boy was putting on the hair on the Niño's head that he felt something wet in his hands, which he saw was oil. The oil seeped into the new clothes and in a few minutes, the garments were soaking wet.

Humbled and contrite, Boy knelt and asked for forgiveness. Lando knelt, too. Boy was crying as he prayed. From that time on, he was in every procession during the Sto. Niño's feast on Jan. 27, offering a *carroza* for use every year.

Lorna and I were told about this confession only last month. I am writing about it now to assure those who do not believe that it is true. When Boy was telling us the story, I could not help the tears from falling because, through the miracle, the Sto. Niño was saying He was God.

Terminal cases healed

Since the start of the miracle of the oil on Jan. 27, 1992, hundreds of terminal cases have been healed. People come back to show their gratitude during the Mass and procession on the Sto. Niño's feast. At least, 10,000 people came last January.

The most recent to be healed was Marciana Puralan. Her daughter, Mailyn, said Marciana was miraculously healed of a brain tumor.

On Feb. 12, Mailyn brought her mother to Dr. Ofelia Adapon at the Makati Medical Center (MMC) because her mother was suffering from severe headaches. The CT scan revealed that a tumor was growing at the base of Marciana's left brain. The EEG revealed that it was malignant.

Dr. Pia Banico advised the family to prepare P400,000 for operation. Finally, the MMC Charity provided a hospital bed and allowed the family to pay only for medicines and supplies. The patient was admitted on Feb. 13.

Loida, the secretary of Dr. Adapon, told Mailyn to go to the Sto. Niño Chapel to ask for oil and prayer. When she got there on Feb. 21, Mailyn was given only one cotton soaked in oil. The girl hurried back to the hospital and started to apply the oil on her mother's forehead.

She returned to the chapel to ask for more oil when her mother accidentally threw away the cotton ball. That was Feb. 25. On Feb. 23, the patient was scheduled to have a biopsy. Given a CT scan first, the doctors found out that the tumor at the base of the patient's brain had moved to the top. The biopsy was cancelled.

In the meantime Mailyn continued to pray the novena and apply the oil on her mother's head. On March 2, an MRI showed that the blood in the brain was whole. Another MRI on March 4 showed no tumor. Praise be the Lord!

New OAR members

The Order of St. Augustine Recollects held the perpetual profession of vows of two young men on July 16, feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, in the Basilica of San Sebastian. They were Fray Romeo Ben Protencio and Fray Mark Balagtas.

The presiding bishop and homilist was Bishop Teodoro Bacani. At least 30 priests were present with Fr. Samson Silloriquez, parish priest, acting as master of ceremonies.

Our Lady looked resplendent in her vestments, which included a cape created by Aureo Alonzo. The altar was decorated by Val de Mesa, with flowers donated by Cora Apacible and Dr. Lourdes Pascual. The *carroza* was prepared by the Gutierrez family.

Rep. Harry Angping and his wife Naida donated the food for the reception and for the 200 street people who came for the fiesta.

Mely Rojas, one of the Basilica's faithful donors, told me that her devotion to the Virgin of Carmel began in 1991 when she was *hermana* during the canonical coronation of the image. The best blessing she receives is getting well from whatever sickness she has.

Thanks to Nicky Legazpi, I became devoted to the Virgin of Carmel. His aunt, Consolacion Legazpi, who is 88, came to the High Mass on July 16 and was mesmerized by the altar's resplendence.

It seems that the devotion has spread to the youth who go to the church to ask for Our Lady's intercession in passing the board or their school exams.

Mission Sunday on July 28

Since 1967, as designated by the Catholic bishops, every last Sunday of July is Filipino Mission Sunday. This year, the Fil-Mission Sunday will be celebrated on July 28. The day is celebrated in all the parishes in the country for the following intentions: to thank the Lord for the gift of faith we received through the efforts of the missionaries in the past, to commemorate the unselfish work of the Filipino missionaries around the world, to make the faithful realize their mission vocation, and to appeal for more spiritual and material support for Filipino missionaries, particularly the members of the Mission Society of the Philippines (MSP). The Filipino missionaries are our representatives to the world. Let us be one with them through our prayers and support.

Today, MSP has 69 priests. They do mission work in different Asian countries including Thailand, Taiwan, South Korea, Japan and Hong Kong. They also work in some countries in the Pacific like Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, New Zealand and Samoa.

Being a missionary is an exciting adventure. But missionaries undergo much pain and suffering, too. "When you go to a mission, you leave behind your family and your country. You have to shed your culture and open yourself to a new one. It is a big challenge and I believe that the prayers and support of our countrymen have helped us, missionaries, a lot in overcoming the hurdles and hardships that we encounter on the way," explained Fr. Manuel Jadraque, MSP.

St. Expeditus novena

The Holy Family Parish in Kamias district is holding a novena to St. Expeditus, advocate of urgent cases, at 6:30 p.m. every Saturday. Fr. Omer Prieto, the parish priest, is a devotee of St. Expeditus.

Friends of St. Joseph

All members of the Friends of St. Joseph Foundation are invited to a Mass and general assembly 3 p.m., Aug. 3, at Violago Chapel on E. Rodriguez Avenue, QC. The assembly will set the date for the election of a new board of trustees. For inquiries, please page 141-020543.

> Boy Ponce thought there was a hole in the image of the Sto. Niño de Providencia from which oil was flowing

Jollibee
DailySpecials
Sunday
Regular Yum with Cheese Value Meal
P45
Before
Not for JED or bulk orders.
Langhap Sarap sa Jollibee
bee happy

We're back to make 100 dreams come true.
Pampers
Baby Scholars
BATCH 2
Better dryness. Brighter future.

Buy Pampers now, and get another chance to win 1 out of 100 College Scholarships.

Due to the overwhelming response of mothers nationwide, Pampers Baby Scholars is back! Pampers Baby Scholars Batch 2 gives parents with diaper-aged babies (36 months old & below) nationwide the chance to win an educational grant to ensure their child's future.

How to Join

1. To join the promotion, accomplish the following information on a clean sheet of paper:
   - Name of Father and/or Mother
   - Residential Address
   - Telephone No. (If applicable)
   - Baby's Name
   - Baby's Birth Date
   - Signature of Father and/or Mother

   Incomplete information will invalidate the entry.
2. Attach four (4) Pampers Comfort Singles or one pack of any Pampers Comfort or Baby-Dry 4s or more, together with the entry sheet and place in a plain white envelope. Drop entries at drop boxes located at leading supermarkets and stores as well as all Mercury Drug stores nationwide.
3. Entries may also be mailed to:
   - P.O. Box SM 449, Sta. Mesa, Manila.
4. Deadline for submission of entries (corresponds with the closing time of the participating outlets):
   - First Draw: August 1, 2002
   - Second Draw: September 1, 2002
   - Third Draw: October 31, 2002
5. Draws will be conducted at Promo Dimensions, Inc. at 10AM with the supervision of a DTI representative. There will be three draws as follows:
   - First Draw: August 16, 2002
   - Second Draw: September 16, 2002
   - Third Draw: November 15, 2002
6. Prizes at stake are 100 CAP College Educational Plans distributed nationwide among GMA, Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao.
   - First Draw: 20 Winners (GMA 8, Luzon 8, Visayas 2, Mindanao 2)
   - Second Draw: 30 Winners (GMA 12, Luzon 12, Visayas 3, Mindanao 3)
   - Third Draw: 50 Winners (GMA 20, Luzon 20, Visayas 5, Mindanao 5)

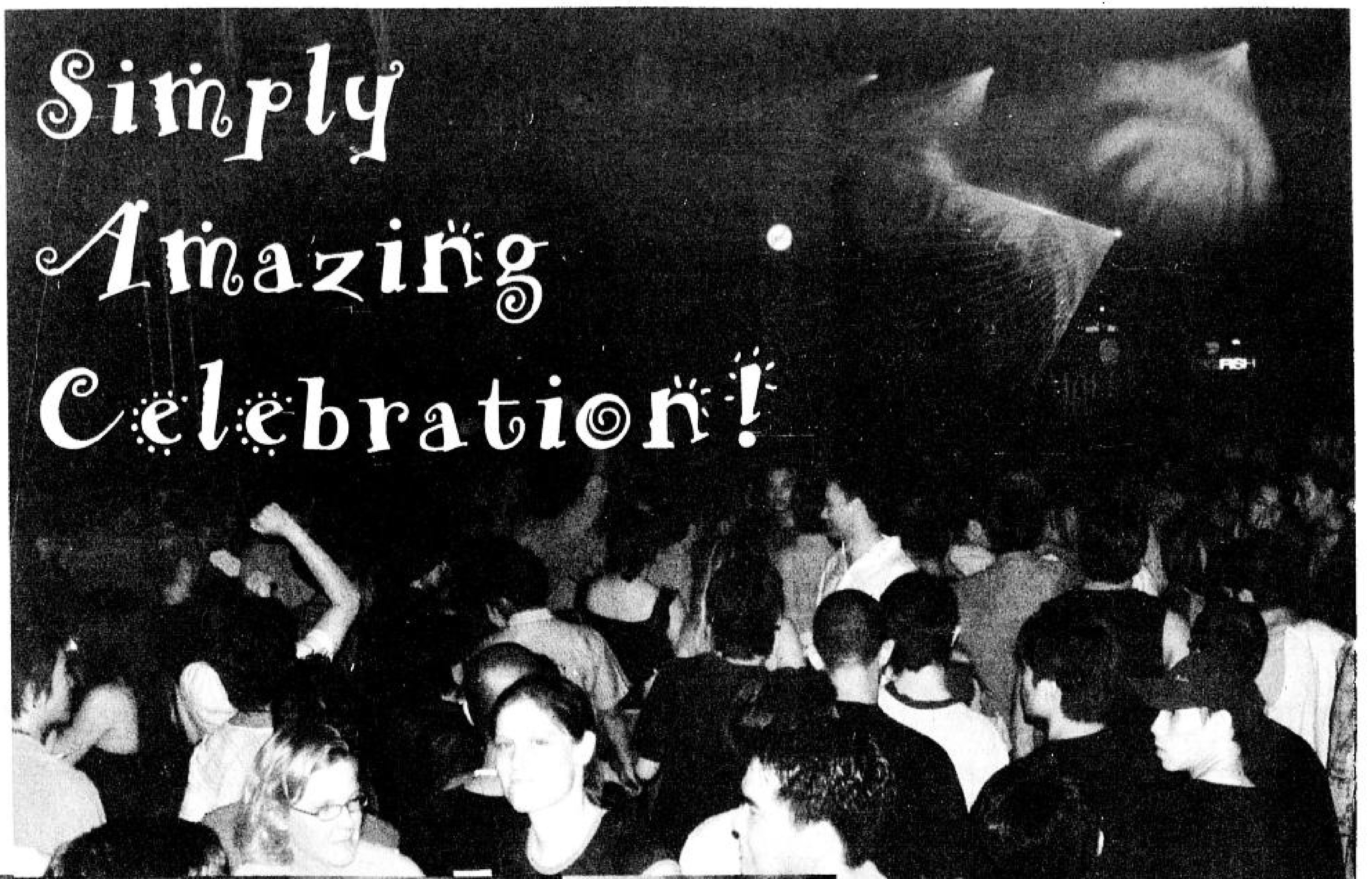
Pampers
Pampers
20
20

Rules and Regulations

1. A participant can win more than once, provided that there are different diaper-aged babies listed on the entries drawn.
2. Non-winning entries in the previous draws shall be qualified for the succeeding draws and will be kept securely in the PDI warehouse prior to the draws.
3. All prizes are tax-free. Procter & Gamble Phils. will shoulder all necessary taxes.
4. The prize is a CAP Cash for Education Plan (CFEP): 7 units with maturity date of 14 years from the date of purchase. The prize is convertible to cash or transferable upon maturity.
5. Winners will be notified by registered mail.
6. For GMA winners, winner must present their letter of notification together with a valid identification (e.g. Driver's License, Philippine Passport, Company ID with Photo) to claim their prize at Ace Saatchi & Saatchi (Marketing Services Department), 10th Flr., Feliza Bldg., 108 V.A. Rufino St. (formerly Herrera St.), Legaspi Village, Makati City.
7. For provincial winners, their letter of notification shall indicate the CAP branch where they may claim their prize.
8. Winners may claim their prizes within sixty (60) days from receipt of notification. Prizes not claimed within the given period are forfeited with prior approval from DTI.
9. Employees of Procter & Gamble Phils., Ace Saatchi & Saatchi Advertising, Promo Dimensions Inc., its PR agencies, including their relatives up to the second degree of consanguinity or affinity are disqualified from joining the promotion.
10. Promo period is from July 1, 2002 up to October 31, 2002.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1103, Series of 2002

Simply Amazing Celebration!

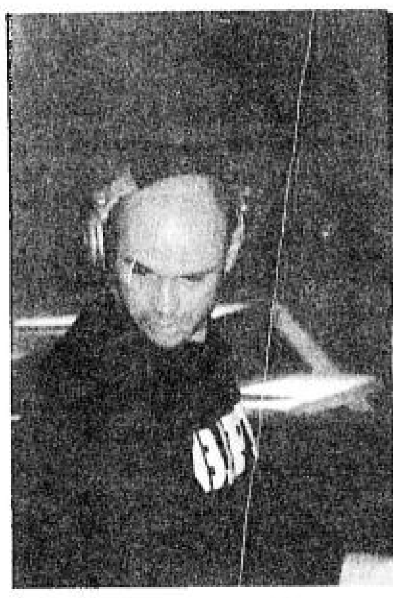


SMART's *Simply Ibiza* spectacular, held at the Bonifacio Global City on the eve of Independence Day, was, to borrow from endorser Martin Nievera, "Simply Amazing!" It certainly lived up to its billing - the biggest event of the year - and offered Filipinos an experience worth a thousand miles' travel: partying, Ibiza-style! What a way to celebrate almost seven million subscribers on the SMART network!

The event was a value-added treat: two parties happening in one night. At the Fourth Avenue lot, SMART hosted *White Hot Ibiza*, a Latin-inspired carnival of music and merry-making that packed in over seven thousand subscribers (including several who switched Subscriber Identity Module, or SIM, cards on site - just to enter). And at The NBC Tent, SMART set up *Space Ibiza*, bringing into the country the lava-hot dance club Space - straight from the Spanish party island Ibiza - for a one-night stand that drew lines of partyphiles!

Taking a page from Rio de Janeiro's Carnaval and New Orleans' Mardi Gras, White Hot Ibiza was an experience of revelry the kind of which Filipinos warmed to without hesitation! Picture this: a hypnotic Latin beat throbbing at the background, a master of ceremonies (comedian Jon Santos) screaming out the activities in joyous abandon, a conga line continuously coaxing you to dance, men on stilts strutting to and fro, makeshift stands from the city's top bars and restaurants tempting you with food and drink, and themed tents from SMART's services - SMART zed, SMART Money, SMART IDD and SMART SuperSIM - offering everything from henna tattoos to wine and cheese. On centerstage that evening the SMART Man himself, Martin Nievera topbilled a musical *tour de force* that also featured samba and salsa exponents Bo Razon and Puro Ritmo, power pop trio Barbie's Cradle, amazing diva Lani Misalucha, and soul brothers South Border. To punctuate the party, fireworks filled the Bonifacio Global City skies as Martin, Lani, Barbie, and South Border's Luke and Jay joined in chorus to sing the anthem of the evening, the "Simply Amazing" song! With the crowd singing along, you just knew it: this was a night to remember.

At the nearby NBC Tent, a snake-like line had unraveled as early as 9pm for *Space Ibiza*, quite early as the party was not expected to shift into high gear till past midnight. Still, the crowd of reveling urbanites queued that night seemed not to mind - with Space bringing along dance music icon Dave Seaman of Global Underground, as well as the club's resident DJ Tania Vulkano and a band of stunningly gorgeous party-hardy femme fatales from the Spanish island. *Space Ibiza* was a party animal's dream come true! When SMART put together *Simply Ibiza*, the idea simply was to celebrate with its seven million subscribers. And what a celebration it was. *Simply Amazing*.



Global Underground's **Dave Seaman** mixes hot *at Space Ibiza!*

SMART Man **Martin Nievera** headlines *White Hot Ibiza*.

Power pop princess **Barbie** brings the house down!

South Border's **Luke** lays down the groove.

Putting Your Money Where Your Phone Is

Let's talk about the m-word. Not always the most pleasant point for discussion, but, let's face it, we all need it - albeit in differing amounts.

There was a time when people didn't need money. Why? Because there was a time when there actually wasn't any money to be made, stolen or borrowed. This was the time of direct trading.

Way back in human history, people traded actual goods - say, firewood for vegetables, a horse for a slave, salt for work, etc. Each party in this direct trade just had to agree on the equivalence of the products being exchanged.

Later on, the idea of currency cropped up. People began to trade using gold as a standard, which eventually led to the present practice of carrying around banknotes - or the paper money we use today - to purchase goods.

Not too many years ago, credit cards were introduced, allowing consumers the convenience of buying things without having to bring around money - and by charging it to his credit account.

The credit card was followed by the debit card, which, like the credit cards offered the power to purchase sans cash - debiting the amount from a fund in your bank.

Now, SMART is changing the way we buy and pay with SMART Money, the highly-touted, award-winning breakthrough in mobile commerce. The idea behind it is a powerful insight into consumer behavior: with the cell phone now coming to be as much a part of a person's get-up as his wallet, why not equip it to act as one?

SMART Money is the first and only re-loadable cash card linked to a mobile phone.

What can SMART Money do for you?

- *Make face-to-face purchases.* As a partner of MasterCard, SMART Money is accepted not only in over 20,000 MasterCard Electronic establishments in the Philippines but also in all MasterCard outlets abroad. It can be used in places that usually accept credit cards, such as fastfood chains and moviehouses.
- *Reload prepaid airtime.* Reload your own or someone else's SMART Buddy Celfone anytime, anywhere with just a few clicks. With SMART Money, there no longer is a need for actual prepaid cards.
- *Perform remote purchases.* Through SMART Money's remote purchase capability, you can order, pay for and have pizza, burgers, movie tickets, and even flowers - delivered to wherever you want.
- *Do wallet-to-wallet transfers.* With SMART Money, you can transfer value from one SMART Money card to another. Parents will find this feature most helpful - they can give their children SMART Money cards and then simply transfer their amount of their alloted allowance from their card to their kids' with just a few clicks on their SMART Celfone. Parents with children studying in faraway cities can even send payments for tuition, books and school supplies at a cost much more affordable than using money transfers or couriers.

SMART Money is slowly changing the way we handle our finances by literally putting our money where our phone is - right in our hands, without the inconvenience (and security risk) of carrying bills around.

Try out SMART Money today. It now comes bundled with SMART zed in the all-new 64K Super SIM, offered with new SMART Gold and SMART Buddy subscriptions. Visit your nearest wireless dealer for more information.

Traveling SMART: Tips for the Budget-Conscious

Traveling abroad is often viewed as expensive. It certainly can be. There are numerous costs to factor in, from the airfare to the hotels to the tour excursions - all of these tend to weigh down on the decision of many Filipinos to travel.

Fortunately, there are ways to cut-costs without sacrificing the most important gift of travel: the opportunity to experience - and learn from - life as it is lived outside of our own respective contexts.

Here are a few tips on how to travel SMART:

First, plan your itinerary. A lot of expenses, hassles, and missed opportunities can be eliminated if you plan your trip well. There is nothing that can jack up your expenses like landing in a foreign city and not knowing where to go. Identify the places you want to see, find out what the best routes to getting there are, and determine what the travel times involved are. Knowing all of these, you can now plot out your entire trip on a day-to-day or hour-to-hour basis if necessary.

Next, navigate the 'Net - and bargain-hunt for the best deals on travel fares and room rates! The worldwide web abounds with sites that offer discounts. All it takes is a little patience while surfing and willingness to take your time in looking for the best deals for your trip.

Now, here's another tip for cost-conscious travelers: keep connected - at a cost you can pre-set even before you take the trip - with SMART International Prepaid Text Roaming, a new and innovative SMART service to lessen your travel expenditures abroad!

International Text Roaming is now available to prepaid subscribers on the SMART network. With the service, SMART Buddy subscribers can now enjoy uninterrupted text messaging services - even when they travel outside of the country.

Available in over a hundred countries, SMART International Prepaid Text Roaming is both simple and affordable. The service is activated by keying in "roam on" and sending this as a text message to 333. The international roaming feature will then be activated shortly after.

Once the service is activated, subscribers will be able to send and receive text messages, and continue to enjoy most of the services offered with SMART Money and SMART zed, except downloading icons and ringtones. Text messages sent while roaming will cost P15 each (plus the applicable rates for the respective SMART Money and SMART zed services): text messages received will remain free of charge. While roaming however, prepaid subscribers will not be able to make or receive voice calls.

With SMART BUDDY International Text Roaming, smart travelers can determine how much they will be allocating for texting friends and family at home, and leave the rest of their budget for things like shopping or sight-seeing. It's the perfect compliment to your jetsetting lifestyle.

Clearly, budgeting for trips abroad can be easy, for those who plan and travel SMART

SMART Gold Rush 2 is Simply Irresistible!

Following in the footsteps of the amazing success that was the SMART Gold Rush, SMART is all set to bring in the rainy season with some more incentives to switch to SMART Gold. SMART Gold Rush 2 gives existing SMART and non-SMART subscribers the chance to own an amazing number of brand new celfones absolutely free!

It's true, it's true! The SMART Gold Rush 2 that will run until July 31, 2002 will let new subscribers own the latest celfone models for free! For Gold Rave Plan (P500), the Ericsson A3618s will be given away. Gold Standard Plan (P600) entails a free Nokia 3310. The Gold Choice Plan (P1335) offers the choice of a Nokia 5210, Siemens S45 or a Siemens ME45. Gold Select Plan (P1995) will give away the Nokia 6510. The Gold Premium Plan (P2665) will feature the Nokia 8850. For new plan subscribers, make sure to bring the following: valid ID, proof of billing address and financial documents or any existing credit card. Switching from a non-SMART post-paid or PriceBuster plan to a SMART Gold Plan means getting free celfones as well. For Gold Rave Plan (P500), switchers get a free Nokia 3310. Gold Standard Plan (P600) switchers get the Nokia 3350 free. The Gold Choice Plan (P1995) gives away the Nokia 8250 while the Gold Select Plan (P1995) will have the Nokia 8310. Finally, Gold Premium Plan (P2665) switchers have the choice of either a Nokia 8855 or the Samsung T100. Switching to SMART Gold means surrendering both your current non-SMART SIM card and celfone, but that's absolutely fine since you get a new SIM and celfone for free!

To switch to Gold Rave, Gold Standard, or Gold Choice plans, non-SMART post-paid and PriceBuster subscribers must bring the latest two months' billing statements with an average of at least P800. To switch to Gold Select or Gold Premium plans, non-SMART post-paid and PriceBuster subscribers must bring the latest two months' worth of billing statements with an average of at least P1800. All these plans are covered by a 24-month contract period which means switchers or new subscribers must use their SMART Gold SIM and phones for that period.

SMART is also ensuring taking care of SMART Gold subscribers through the SMART Retention Program and the Family 1+1 Program. For the SMART Retention Program, Gold subscribers who've completed their contracts can avail of the SMART Gold Rush 2 where they can upgrade their handset for free. In the case of the SMART Family 1+1 plan, SMART Gold subscribers can purchase another SMART Gold line which would mean another free celfone! For non-SMART subscribers who wish to just SIM swap to SMART Gold, they get free MSF (monthly service fees) on the 6th and 12th month from purchase. This free MSF also applies to SIM only sales but will not include a free celfone.

Keep in mind that all new subscribers and switchers to SMART Gold will automatically be given the new SMART 64K Super SIM which combines the established SMART services such as SMART zed, SMART Money, and personalization. Before, with a SMART Money SIM, you can shop without cash, reload your friend's SMART GSM celfone over-the-air and even send flowers to your loved ones with just a few clicks on your celfone, while with a SMART zed SIM, you can get everything from up-to-the-minute news to e-mail to ring tones and logos to movie schedules and more. Now, with the new SMART 64K Super SIM, both zed and Money options are in one SIM with just a few clicks on your celfone.

SMART Gold Rush 2 is providing these new plans for both old and new SMART Gold subscribers and provides the SMART 64K Super SIM as part of this amazing package. At very affordable prices, by giving away quality celfones absolutely free, as well as the latest SIM innovations, this isn't just too good to be true. It's simply irresistible!

SMART Gives Away FREE Celfones for Your Family!

So you've been enjoying your SMART Gold celfone and things couldn't possibly be better. You've even upgraded to the SMART 64K Super SIM that merges the technologies of SMART zed and SMART Money and you love it. But what if you could get another SMART Gold line for your loved ones, but instead of paying an exorbitant amount for a new phone; you could get that phone absolutely FREE?!

Sounds unbelievable? Well it's true! As part of the SMART Gold Rush 2 and the Family 1+1 Program, SMART Gold subscribers can get additional SMART Gold lines and get a free celfone for every new line. If you're an existing SMART Gold subscriber, and you want to get your mom, dad, brother, sister, or your kids a SMART Gold line, you can have access to some of the hottest phones today for free!

Subscribing to the Gold Rave Plan (P500) merits a Nokia 3310. The Gold Standard Plan (P600) will mean getting a Nokia 3350. The Gold Choice Plan (P1995) gives away the Nokia 8250 while the Gold Select Plan (P1995) will have the Nokia 8310. Finally, Gold Premium Plan (P2665) switchers have the choice of either a Nokia 8855 or the Samsung T100.

The Family 1+1 Program is just one of the ways SMART wants to thank its valuable customers for their loyalty and trust in SMART. You are the reason there are close to seven million subscribers on the SMART Network today, and it's about time you were rewarded for this.

So get yourself an additional SMART Gold SIM today, and get your hands on those irresistible FREE celfones!

Is there a 4th of July in England?

What is half divided by half?

Today is Wednesday. What will the fourth day from yesterday be?

How many 5-peso stamps does it take to make a dozen?

Cairo is the capital of what country?

SMART

MIND GAME

Simply challenging

Choose between moderate and difficult questions, then answer as many as you can for a chance to win over ₱1,000,000 in cash!

Join now and receive multiple-choice questions daily. You 'll even get bonus rounds where the points at stake are doubled. To join the raffle, simply register before the end of the promo period. Each correct answer earns you a corresponding number of raffle entries. The more entries you accumulate, the more chances of winning. You can also invite your friends to join. If they win, you win too! So hurry, play the **SMART MIND GAME** now!

Winner	Prize
Grand Draw	₱ 1,000,000
Direct recruiter	₱ 300,000
2nd level recruiter	₱ 100,000
Regular Draw	₱ 50,000
Direct recruiter	₱ 5,000
2nd level recruiter	₱ 3,000

To	Key in
Join	**MG**
Register	**<FULL NAME>*<AGE>*<COMPLETE ADDRESS>**
Check your raffle points	**RAFFLE**
Change to moderate questions	**MOD**
Change to difficult questions	**DIF**
Quit	**QUIT**
Reactivate/play again	**ON**

*Send all keywords to **246**. Text mesages sent are ₱2.50 each. Promo period is from July 13 to September 14, 2002.*

chikka™

Correct Answer	Points
1st attempt	20
2nd attempt	10
3rd attempt	5

Draw dates

July 28	*1st Draw*
August 11	*2nd Draw*
August 25	*3rd Draw*
September 15	*Grand Draw*

SMART

Simply Amazing!

Peregrinations of a bookworm

Text and photos by Cynthia O. Valdes

MY favorite quote has always been: "Reading maketh a full man, conference a ready man and writing an exact man..."

Francis Bacon, who said that, was a 16th-century English lord, philosopher and man of letters. According to the Britannica, "his breadth of vision and pungency of style... secured him a place not just in English literature but in the history of ideas..."

Filipino writer Nick Joaquin, one of my favorite human beings, dropped out of high school to work on Manila's waterfront. He spent whatever free time he had to read at the National Library. He not only succeeded in educating himself, he went on to become National Artist for literature.

Why read?

Some people read for entertainment (although television, movies and video are strong contenders for our attention). Others read for information. The reader who reads to increase his knowledge and further his education can sustain learning for the rest of his life.

Libraries are still our prime repositories of books. Most of them are attached to schools and universities.

The very first book I read came out of a bookcase placed right in our classroom. That we were required to do a book report for every book we borrowed almost took the pleasure out of reading and the joy out of writing. Isn't it uncanny that something we're "compelled" to do immediately becomes an unpleasant chore?

Growing up

When I was growing up during the Japanese Occupation, we didn't have too many books at home. However, we entertained ourselves with "word games" like asking one another how to spell or how to pronounce certain words, especially tricky ones.

Our dictionary became the most used book of the very few we had. Worn and near tattered, it was passed on from hand to hand, the most popular reading and entertainment fare in our house.

As kids, we were highly spirited, contentious and mean. We picked on our mom who was so busy with household chores, she could hardly think straight. With malicious glee, we would pounce on her for every mispronounced word and malapropism.

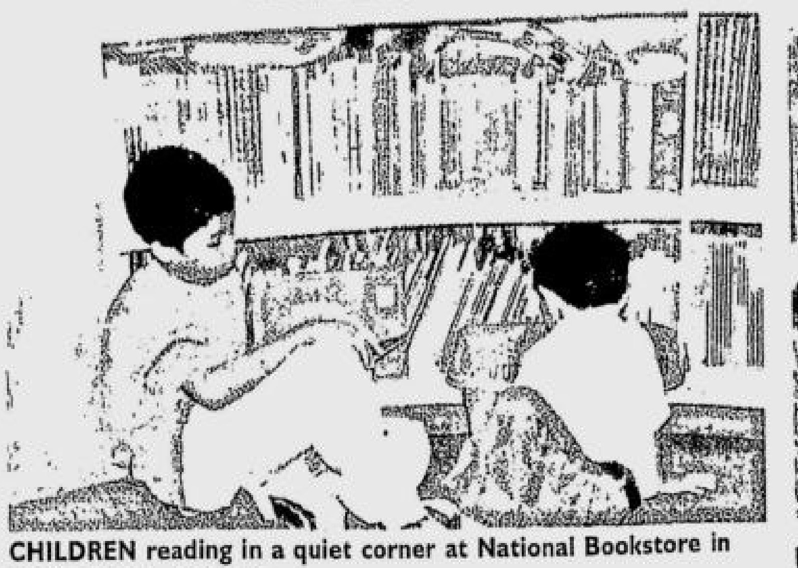
In her late 70s and widowed, she went on to become the family Scrabble champion. Addicted to playing several games a day, she managed to train her personal driver and bodyguard Felino (who was also a crossword-puzzle fan) to become a worthy opponent. They engaged in daily bouts playing as many as 7-8 games a day.

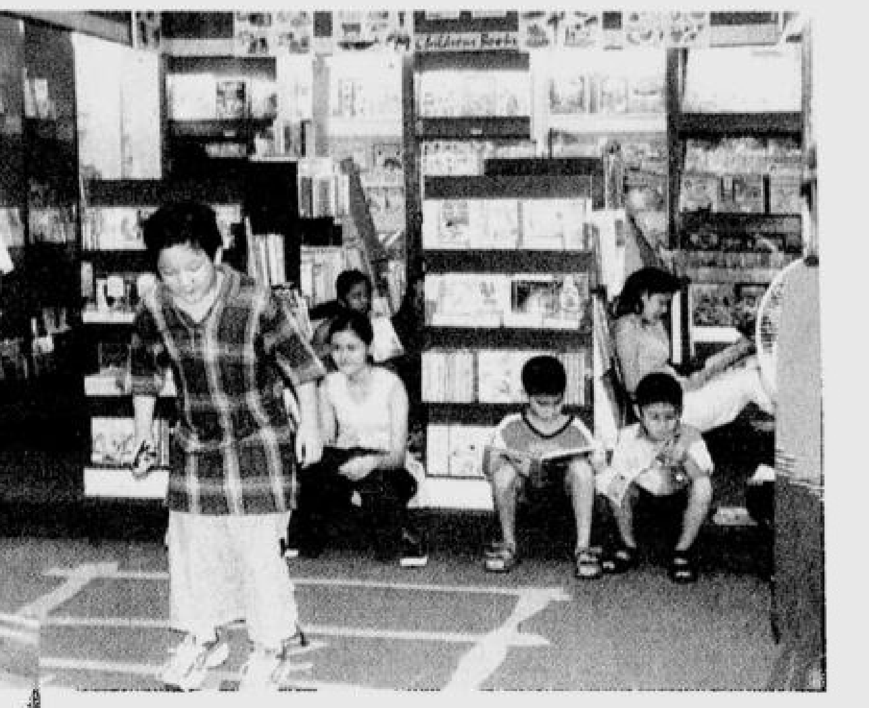
As a young wife, my husband presented me with a Merriam-Webster Dictionary. The inscription, in his big bold confident script, read, "It may not be romantic, but you've always wanted one. With love, Jess." To this, I appended a dainty postscript, "Yeah, but not as a birthday present."

Today, dictionaries, encyclopedias and other books have a special place in our home. My grandchildren are proud that, whatever reference book you need for school, their Lola Cindy is sure to have it (or she runs to the neighborhood bookstore to get it).

Unfortunately, she hasn't managed to instill the same passion for study and serious reading in all of her progeny.

Except perhaps for son Dennis, who has a fascination for the nuances of the English language. His most recently acquired book is William Safire's "Keep a Simile Under Your Umbrella."


CHILDREN reading in a quiet corner at National Bookstore in Festival Mall, Alabang


CHILDREN reading and playing at PowerBooks Alabang Town Center

ADULT readers enjoy the hospitality of PowerBooks at Alabang Town Center.

And daughter Tina, even if she happens to be a special child. Tina is an Enid Blyton fan. The Blyton books, suitable for young adults, are now printed in Singapore and available here at minimal cost. (I am amazed that these books are cheaper here than in the US.) To sustain Tina's reading habits, I do not buy the next book until she finishes the one she is reading.

I wish my grandchildren would read more. But if they don't particularly like to, I have discovered that crossword puzzles (DK Carol Vorderman) for children and See-a-Word can be challenging ways to build up a child's vocabulary. I also spotted Scrabble sets for as young as 3-year-olds.

Bookstores

A happy phenomenon of the last 40-50 years is the proliferation of bookstores. At a recent US trip, I had the chance to look up and size up the giants of the industry (Borders, Barnes & Noble) as well as hole-in-the-wall enterprises offering secondhand books for sale (Strand in New York is still the place for secondhands).

The biggest chains, still Borders (books, music, café) and Barnes & Noble, are in all the big cities and even in smaller university towns like Ann Arbor, Evanston, East Lansing and San Mateo in San Francisco.

A few years ago, I was walking out of Borders on Michigan Avenue when a buzzer stopped me in my tracks. A huge black person practically collared me and wanted to check my packages (shades of Winona Ryder!). Everyone looked as we made our way to the back where the person who sold me the book offered a vague apology. He had forgotten to remove the thingy that sets off the buzzer!

Bookstores are more accessible than libraries because you can just walk in. They are fertile breeding ground for young Rizals, Mabinis and Del Pilars

That event, which by the way happened in 1996, rather set me off against that particular store. Some weeks ago, finding myself in Chicago once again, I entered the store (casing the joint?), but couldn't bring myself to buy anything.

Barnes & Noble, only a few blocks away, didn't have a good Asian books section. I went to the second floor to look for it, but the saleslady told me they were still putting it together. The B&N branch at East Lansing was much bigger and better stocked.

For rare and scholarly books on Asia, Chicago's Paragon Books is the place to go to. It claimed to be only a 10-minute walk from the Field Museum (maybe 15, offered Ben Bronson, curator of anthropology). If I had believed that, it would've put my health to the litmus test.

$10 away by cab, I almost missed the small sign on the window, but the number was right. I let go of my pocketbook and, among other purchases, picked up a rare issue of Berthold Laufer's "The Beginnings of Porcelain in China." Laufer was (in 1915) curator of anthropology at the field and therefore Ben's predecessor. Paragon is low-key because, like Amazon.com, it does most of its business through the Internet.

Of course, Hong Kong is still the place to look for Asian and Southeast Asian publications on Oriental ceramics, jade, ancient bronzes and trade history. The Museum of Art Bookstore across the street from the Peninsula Hotel in Tsimshatsui is a convenient stop after viewing the museum display (some ceramics exhibited have been acquired from the Philippines). Most books you can find at Tai Yip, an obscure destination on the Hong Kong side (because they are wholesalers) you can also find here.

Times Bookstores in Jakarta and Singapore are well stocked and strong on Southeast Asian publications, probably because Oxford University Press that publishes most of these are based in Singapore and Kuala Lumpur.

Philippine bookstores

The academic and intellectual types go to Solidaridad on Padre Faura run by award-winning writer F. Sionil Jose. Mario Alcantara's Heritage, hidden away somewhere in Cubao, is a good source of out-of-print books because he purchases whole libraries. But it is not the place for the faint-hearted (some three or four floors, the stairs are rickety) or the asthmatic, the dust is unbelievable.

Page One at Rockwell is hard to beat for ambience as most stores in Southeast Asia go. It gives an illusion of BIG. It is big, but it doesn't have a good section on Southeast Asian publications. Are these books difficult to acquire, or is there lack of local interest?

PowerBooks is to be commended for its hospitality. It has the most number of chairs for readers. A chair or two might be around the corner for most bookstores in the US, but mostly you have to content yourself with sitting on a stool that anyone can claim after you leave it to reach for the books on the upper shelves.

Kutu Buku (Bahasa Indonesia for "bookworm") is a small neighborhood bookstore just outside of Kemang Villas in Jakarta, where I stayed for a year taking care of my grandchildren. Other than the books I liked, such as Oxford University Press' "Images of Asia" series, it also carried all the Dorling Kindersley Eyewitness Guides that are ideal sources of general information for children.

I also like Filipino Bookstore at the Alabang Town Center. Gilbert, the "bookkeeper," already knows which books I usually buy: Rizal, the 19th century, social histories, publications of the Ateneo University Press, reprints of the National Historical Institute. I also go there for the music: Esmilla's violin concertos, the Bolipata brothers, Raul Sunico.

When the heat becomes oppressive, PowerBooks at the Town Center is a favorite hangout of the young crowd at Alabang. Adults perch on chairs, elbows on tables. Kids sit or sprawl on the floor. This generous bookstore tolerates its browsers: *"Maski nagkakapunit-punit na,"* according to the store manager, as an employee patiently wipes sticky fingerprints off books.

Bookstores, being more accessible than libraries because you can just walk in, can be fertile breeding ground for young Rizals, Mabinis and Del Pilars. Not only do you no longer need cash, they even offer you a chair!

Let's not discourage booksellers with a heart. Handle books carefully and with love. Especially, according to 7-year-old Martin, "if we didn't buy it yet."

The nook and cranny of reading

From page C1

can be found on every deck of the "corner."

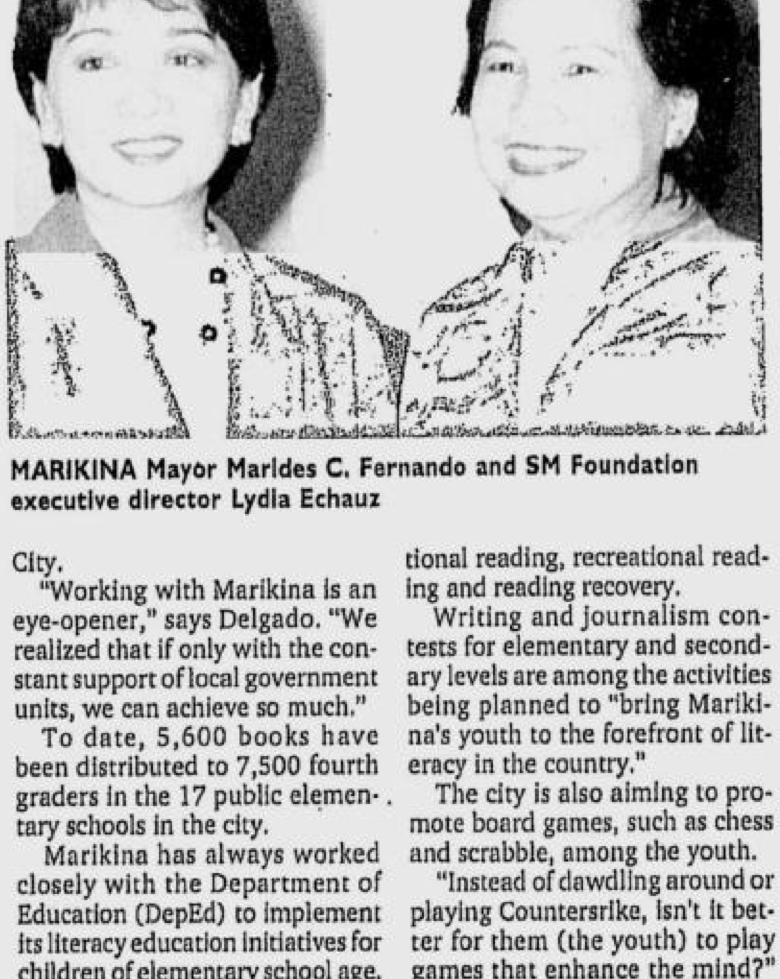
Among these are award-winning books by prized authors, such as "Ang Gintong Habian, Mga Kwentong Premyado ng Palanca"; "Ang Pambihirang Buhok ni Raquel" by Luis Gatmaitan, M.D.; "The Brothers Wu and the Good-Luck Eel, A Tale from the Philippine Islands" by Fran Ng; "The Warrior Dance and Other Classic Philippine Tales" by Neni Sta. Romana Cruz; "The Boy Who Ate Stars" by Alfred A. Yuson; and "Sundalong Patpat (Thin Soldier)" by Virgilio Almario.

Representatives from Petron Foundation, Jollibee, Coca-Cola Foundation, SM Foundation and Globe Telecom were also present at the unveiling and turnover ceremonies.

Cool attitude

Sa Aklat Sisikat (loosely translated as "Books Make You Cool") was launched in 1999 as a literary campaign in Manila. After the immense success of its pilot project, which reached out to 21,000 students in 26 different schools in Manila, SAS was established in association with Petron Foundation in January 2001.

Last Jan. 15, the SAS Reading Program was brought to Marikina City.


MARIKINA Mayor Marides C. Fernando and SM Foundation executive director Lydia Echauz

"Working with Marikina is an eye-opener," says Delgado. "We realized that if only with the constant support of local government units, we can achieve so much."

To date, 5,600 books have been distributed to 7,500 fourth graders in the 17 public elementary schools in the city.

Marikina has always worked closely with the Department of Education (DepEd) to implement its literacy education initiatives for children of elementary school age, says Fernando. Being emphasized are development reading, functional reading, recreational reading and reading recovery.

Writing and journalism contests for elementary and secondary levels are among the activities being planned to "bring Marikina's youth to the forefront of literacy in the country."

The city is also aiming to promote board games, such as chess and scrabble, among the youth.

"Instead of dawdling around or playing Countersrike, isn't it better for them (the youth) to play games that enhance the mind?" says Fernando.

To this call, Marikina is including "Push Pawns, Not Drugs" in its lineup of campaigns for the coming months.

Zero non-readers

"The Reading Corner is a major component of the city's drive for zero non-readers by the end of 2002," says Fernando. "Marikina is among the most progressive cities in the Philippines in terms of reading initiatives."

So why reading, and not math or science?

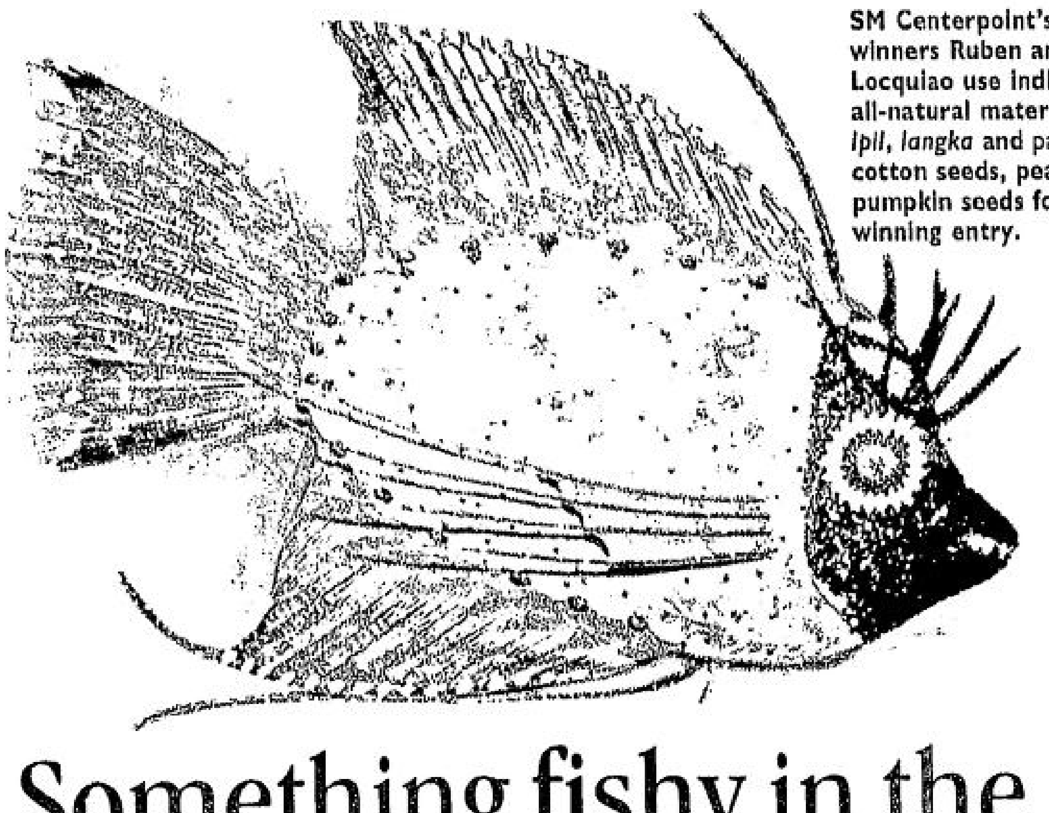
"Reading is the foundation of all education," said Marge M. Barro, executive director of SAS. "You wouldn't be good in Math or Science if you don't read."

The results of the Third International Mathematics and Science Test attest to that. Of the 41 representing countries, the Philippines is third from the last, bested by its Asian neighbors Singapore, South Korea and Japan, which rank first, second and third, respectively.

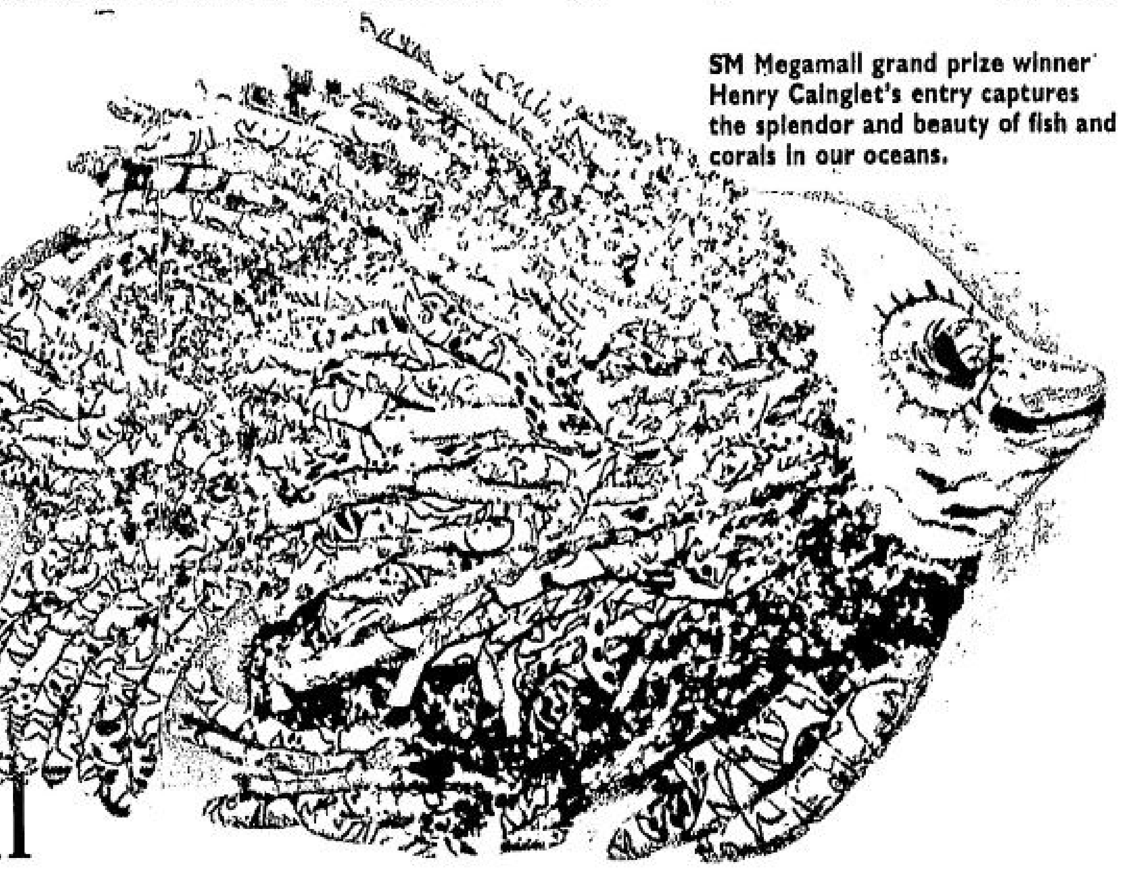
"It's not because Filipino students are not good in Math and Science," points out Delgado. "It's because they don't fully understand the questions."

SAS and Marikina City have high hopes that the Reading Corner will become a haven for the kids to develop their love for books and habit of reading, and eventually remedy the literacy problem of Philippine education.

SA
AKLAT
SISIKAT
3
COOL KIDS' HANGOUT. Students of L. Victorino Elementary School skim through the pages of the books from the newly installed SAS-Tuklas Reading Corner.



SM Centerpoint's grand prize winners Ruben and Lisa Locquiao use indigenous and all-natural materials like *ipil-ipil*, *langka* and papaya leaves, cotton seeds, peanut shells and pumpkin seeds for their winning entry.



SM Megamall grand prize winner Henry Cainglet's entry captures the splendor and beauty of fish and corals in our oceans.

Something fishy in the mall

SM Supermalls' Dress-a-Fish competition drew more than 900 entries. The contest was in connection with SM's Save the Seas Summer Adventure promotion, in which shoppers bought papier-mâché fish for P300 that they dressed up for the competition. Contestants were entitled to cash coupons from the Toy Kingdom and the stationery department of all SM stores, plus gift certificates.

Among the winners were Warren Ramos for SM City Manila, Joseph Saliendra for SM Southmall, Henry Cainglet for SM Megamall, Dennis Nave for SM City Bacoor, Dennis Miguel for SM City North-Edsa, Riben and Lisa Locquia for SM Centerpoint and Arlan Dionaldo for SM City Fairview.

Winners received P10,000 in Banco de Oro cash cards. Consolation prize winners received P1,000.

SM City Manila grand prize winner Warren Ramos said he got the inspiration (and materials) for his entry "Mercury Poison Fish" while jogging along Manila Bay.

"I saw all this junk and trash and wondered how fish could live in these conditions," said this Biochemistry teacher at Our Lady of Fatima College in Lagro.

His entry used toys and softdrink bottles gathered from the debris. "Our fish die because of pollutants in the ocean," he said.

Joseph Saliendra, in his entry, "Fishship: Trash Collector," used cologne bottles, toy guns, old toys. He drew from Hollywood's futuristic movies to make a metal-inspired fish.

Dennis Nave's "Fish vs. Pollution" was fashioned with coconut bark and old sacks and then framed with a styrofoam collage of old toys and other waste materials, which were painted black to symbolize pollution. "If we don't control pollution, our rivers will look like this," he said.

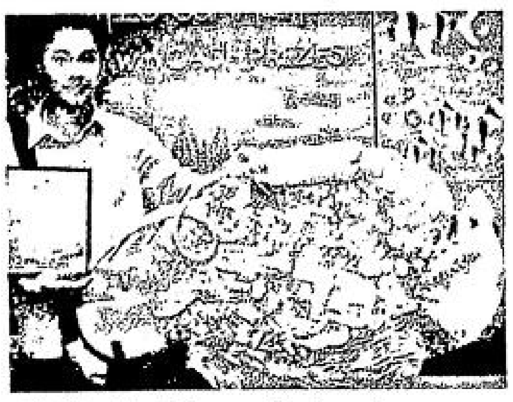
Other winning entries celebrated the beauty under the seas. Painter and sculptor Henry Cainglet recreated the splendor under the ocean by using cut-out fabrics, foam, stuffings, and a lot of colors. Dennis Miguel used natural materials like dried leaves.

Ruben and Liza Locquiao's entry was also a tribute to nature, making use of cotton seeds, *ipil-ipil*, papaya and *langka* leaves, peanut shells, and pumpkin seeds. Ruben, an architect, said these materials were gathered from all over the country.

"I wanted to capture the dynamism and movement under the sea, that's why I made my fish mechanical," said Arlan Dionaldo of his winning entry at SM Supercenter Sucat.

A landscape artist, Arlan approximated the beauty of a fish's movement with motorized fins and tail. What's more, the fish lights up when switched on.

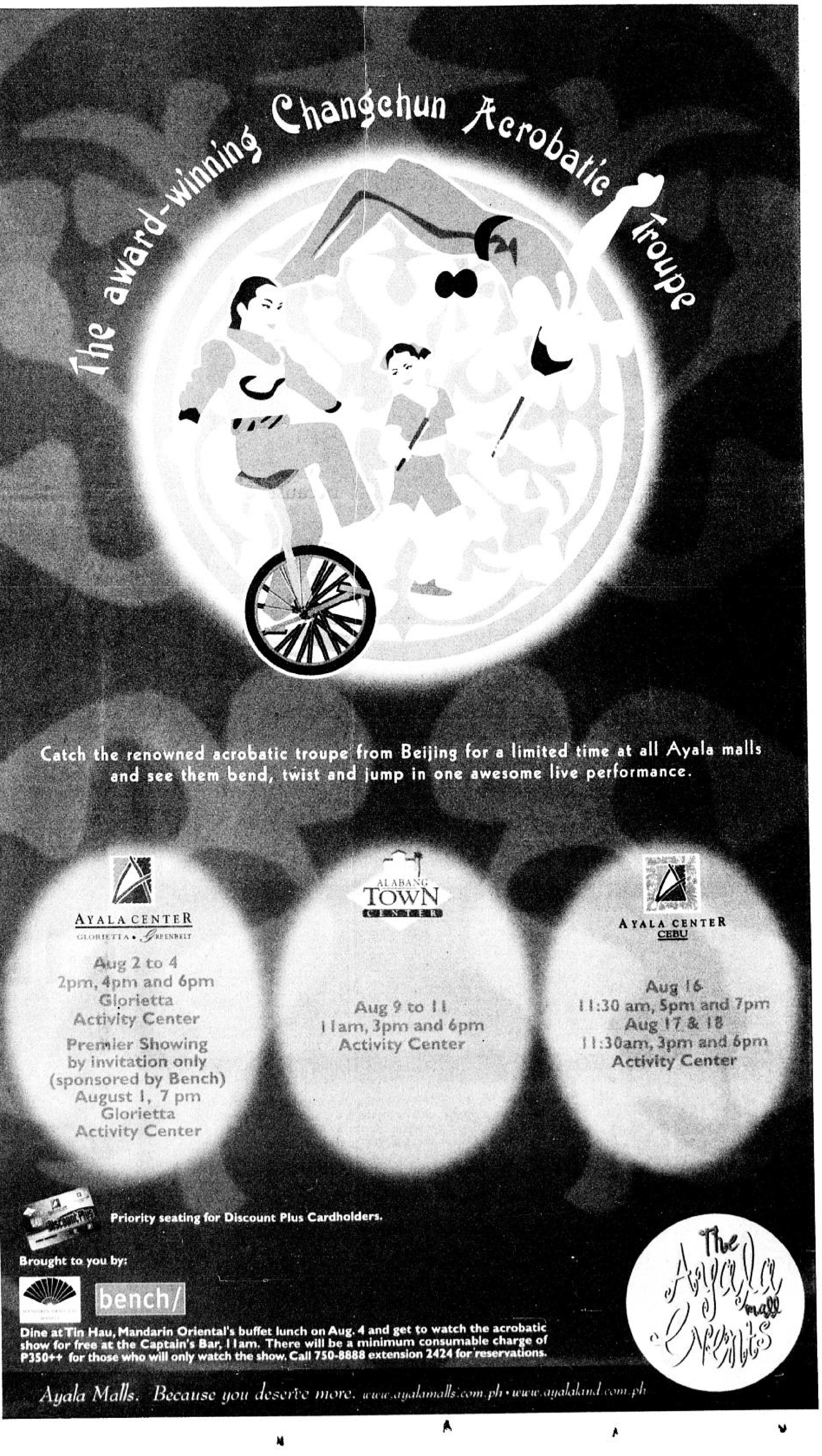
All Dress-a-Fish entries are on display at the atrium areas of all SM Supermalls.



SM City Manila's grand prize winner Warren Ramos with his entry, "Mercury Poison Fish"

SM City North Edsa grand prize winner Dennis Miguel and his entry

"FISHSHIP:Trash Collector" by SM Southmall grand prize winner Joseph Saliendra



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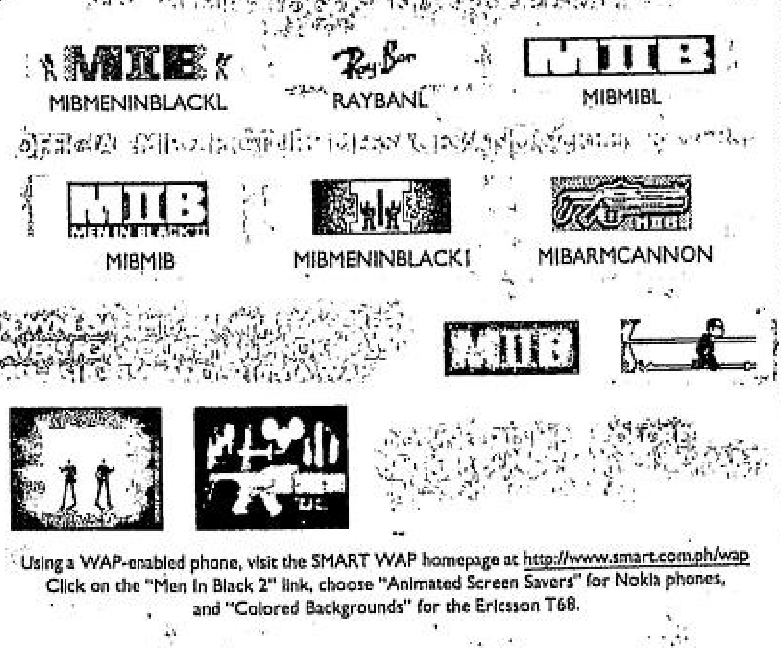

Using a WAP-enabled phone, visit the SMART WAP homepage at http://www.smart.com.ph/wap
Click on the "Men In Black 2" link, choose "Animated Screen Savers" for Nokia phones, and "Colored Backgrounds" for the Ericsson T68.

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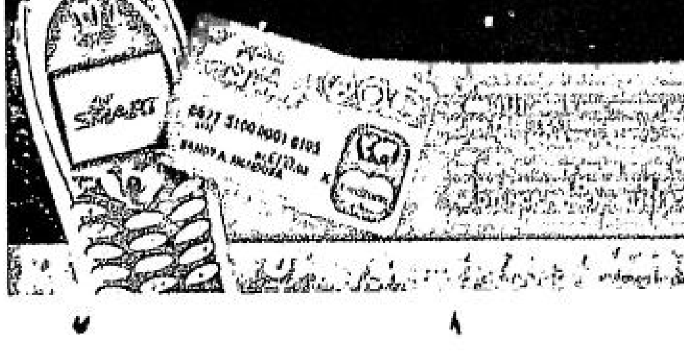
*You can also access the MIB2 games via WAP. Visit the SMART WAP homepage at http://www.smart.com.ph/wap, click on the "Men In Black 2" link, choose "Men In Black games" and select "Back In Black" or "Field Agent Training".
Note: If your celfone is not yet WAP configured, send SET WAP or SET GPRS to 211 to receive over-the-air configuration settings.

For more info, key in MIB2 and send to 239.



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Sunday LIFESTYLE

BLOOMING marsh plants, bromeliads and variegated screwpine add color to all-green ferns.

Graceful living amid forests and fairways

Sta. Elena Village-Banahaw wants to change the impression that golf courses are ecologically incorrect

Text by Tita V. Giron
Photos by Joan Bondoc

"THAT'S a very angry *tarictic* hornbill chasing a crow!" our guide enthused as he slowed down his golf cart to give us a full view of the avian drama unfolding among the trees. The tiny bird that was 10 times smaller than the big bad crow was obviously protecting its nest from the predator.

Afterwards, we resumed our leisurely tour of the sprawling Sta. Elena Village-Banahaw, with its flower gardens, scenic lakes and pocket forests with bird sanctuaries. First of three housing development projects planned by Sta. Elena Properties, the 103-lot residential community will be part of the 27-hole world class golf course, a three-time top winner of the Philippine Daily Inquirer Best Golf Club of the Year award.

Our guide was Edgardo de Vera, the ecology management consultant hired to create a happy balance out of a golf course, housing village, and habitat for birds and butterflies. In the golf cart with us was Gippy Tantoco, the project's development manager.

"For so long, golf courses were getting a bad rap for destroying the environment with oil, herbicides, pesticides, deforestation, etc. We want to change that impression," the natural habitat expert said.

He brought the cart to a full stop to let a zebra dove cross the drive. Whispering, he drew our attention to a Philippine woodpecker pecking at a dead trunk. "There's abundant birdlife in these parts," he remarked.

"Ten years ago, my father dreamed of a place like this, where he could escape from the city and live comfortably with modern comforts and a golf course surrounded by woodlands," Gippy said, explaining how the project was conceptualized by his father, Bienvenido Tantoco Jr., vice chair and general manager of Sta. Elena Properties (tel. 813-5261 to 64).

The dream is almost fulfilled with Banahaw Village, although two other projects are in the pipeline: Makiling Phase and Sierra Madre Phase. The company has, in fact, started pre-selling Banahaw lots ranging from 580 sq m to 1,100 sq m at prices starting at P5 million.

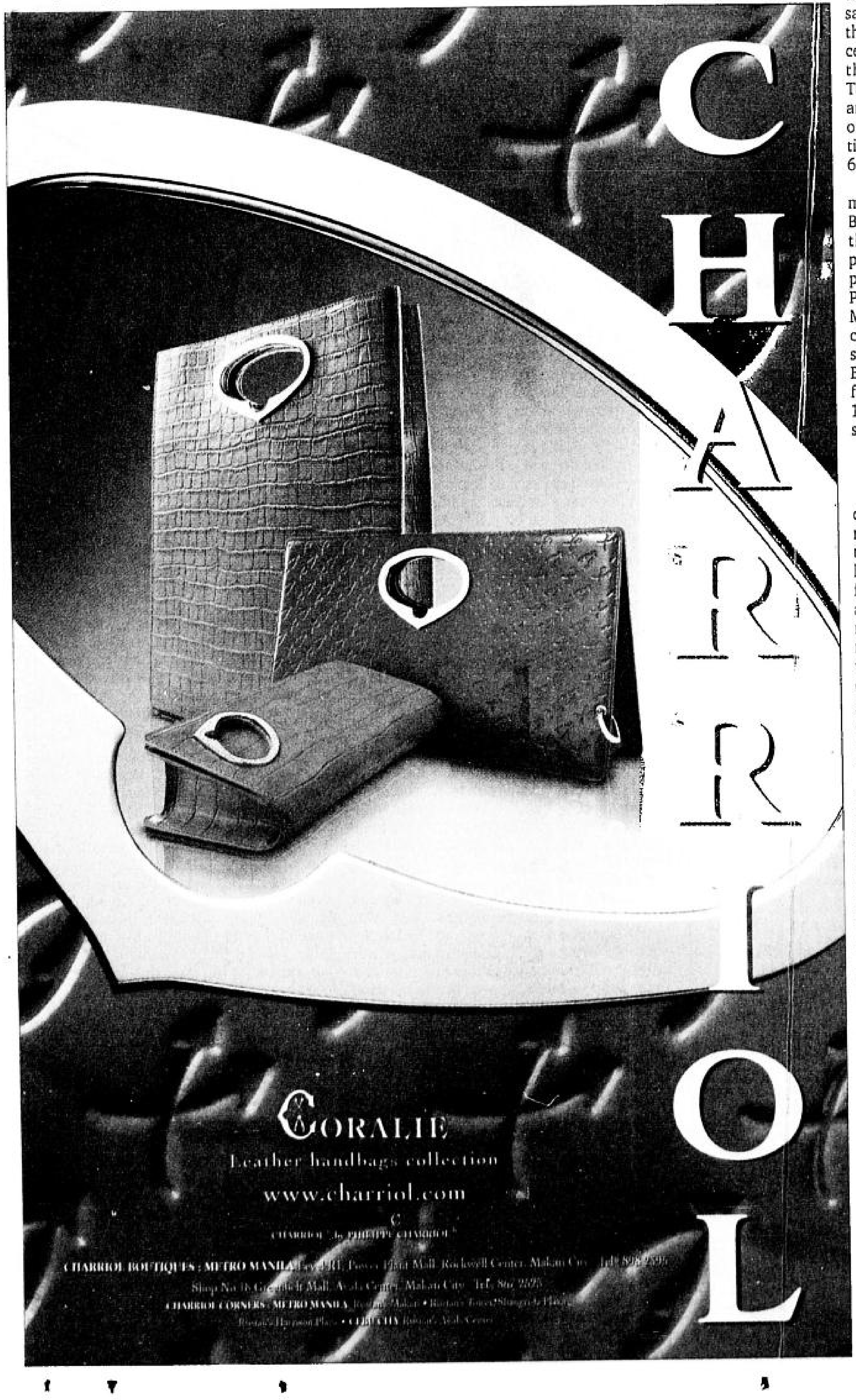
Eco-friendly homes

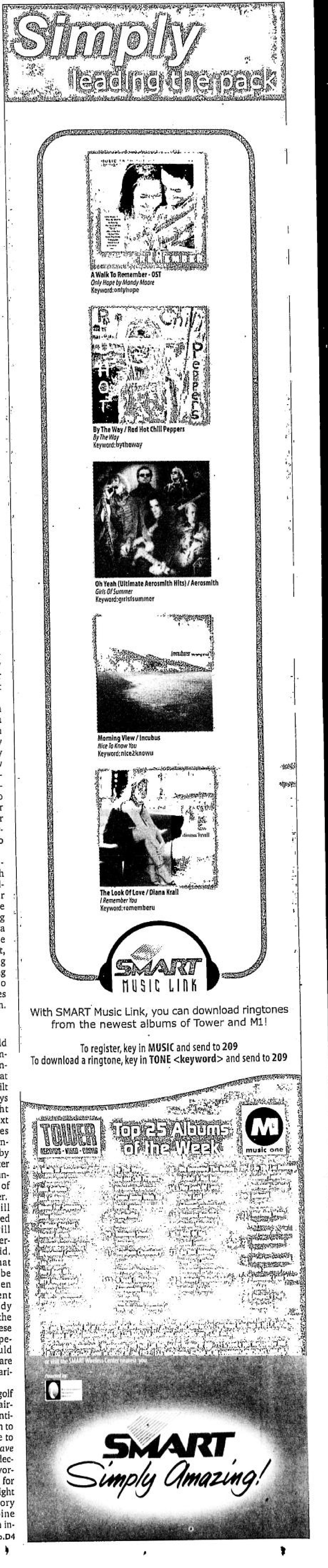
"It will be a world class residential community," Gippy pointed out. He added that houses would be built far from the fairways and about eight meters from the next neighbor. All cables will be installed underground. Stand-by generators and water system will assure uninterrupted supply of electricity and water.

"Lot owners will build single-detached homes and we will offer landscaping services," de Vera said. He pointed out that trees would be planted in-between lots to complement the trees already growing all over the place. "Many of these trees are native species, and we would like to add more rare and endangered varieties," he added.

As he drove the golf cart around the fairways, de Vera identified trees. The path to hole no. 8 is home to *amugis, dita, molave* and *tuai. Dita,* he lectured, was the favorite wood material for making *bakya.* "Right now, our inventory has 150 Philippine forest trees, which in-

GRACEFUL/ p.D4





A Walk To Remember - OST
Only Hope by Mandy Moore
Keyword:onlyhope

By The Way / Red Hot Chili Peppers
By The Way
Keyword:bytheway

Oh Yeah (Ultimate Aerosmith Hits) / Aerosmith
Girls Of Summer
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The Look Of Love / Diana Krall
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French pianist enthralls Cebuano concert-goers

CEBU CEBU

Jaime Picornell

A BREATH of French Spring came to Cebu when the Arts Council teamed with the Embassy of France, represented by its cultural attaché, **Loic Pierre Daniel**, to present accomplished pianist **Alexandre Tharaud**.

This was in cooperation with Alliance Française de Manille; the Honorary French Consulate in Cebu, represented by Consul **Richard Forteau**; and the Cebu Plaza Hotel, whose ballroom was the perfect venue for the recital.

An elegant reception was hosted by Monsieur Daniel before the start of the concert. It was a perfect occasion to congratulate the new officers and board of trustees of the Arts Council.

Petite Marquez Garcia is the reelected president, with architect **Maxwell Espina** and pediatrician **Vivina Chiu Yrastorza** as vice presidents; **Mariter Dumon Klepp**, secretary ; **Alice Tan Plaza**, treasurer; and **Elvira Lu Ym**, auditor.

Carry-over trustees are **Marissa Fernan**, **Clint Escaño**, **Elena Young**, **Tetta Ba-ad**, **Chinggay Utzurrum,** who does the public relations, and our good friend **Francis Onglatco.**

New trustees read like a glamour trio: **Teresing Mendezona**, **Candice Go** and **Bunny Lu Do. Fe Sala Villarica** and other former presidents serve as advisers.

Most of the 800 seats prepared for the guests were taken. Arts Council staff members **Jolie Judilla** and **Gera Cabatingan** said they ran out of programs at the entrance.

The audience was most appreciative from the start—"Suite en la" by Jean-Philippe Rambeau. Next came Mozart's Piano Sonata No. 13.

Monsieur Tharaud enthralled his listeners even more with the second part of the program, rendering Erik Satie's Gnossiennes (1 and 3) and three of Ravel's Miroirs pour le piano, in particular "Sad Birds," "A Boat on the Ocean" and "Alborada del Gracioso."

He obliged with an encore, a mazurka by Chopin. After everyone had vacated the hall and the artist emerged, there was a rush among Arts Council trustees to have a photo with him, by the piano.

"'It must be because it is all so nicely decorated," mused someone.

Mariter Klepp, an Ikebana club member, had asked **Margie Sy**, **Norma Sanchez** and **Carmen Go** to adorn the dais with floral arrangements that were, indeed, stunning.

World premiere

Like many such organizations, the Arts Council is suffering from limited funds with which to sustain its program of events, many of them offered to the public for free. Thus the need to plan the calendar of events with as stretched a budget as possible.

The challenge to continue the good job has made Petite and everyone else think of fund-raisers. Elena Young suggests a **Jose Mari Chan** show, while Teresing M. is being prodded to organize an elegant dinner with music such as only she can plan.

Fe Sala Villarica, in her capacity as artistic director of Ballet Center, has harnessed Vivina Yrastorza and her persuasive powers for what promises to be a grand event in September: the world premiere of "The Little Mermaid." **Nicholas Pacana** and **Greg Aaron** are busy devising the choreography, finalizing the script, designing the costumes, and choosing the music for this ambitious project.

Greg and Nicholas are based in Atlanta, Ga. When they came to Cebu last year to participate in the 50th anniversary of Ballet Center, they promised to be back in a year and do something great.

Nicholas was born in Cebu, where he learned his first ballet steps from Ms Villarica. He became a scholar of San Francisco's Ballet Celeste, a principal dancer of the Boston Ballet, and eventually attained stardom as the partner of Maniya Barredo in the Atlanta Ballet.

He has retired from "dancing in tights" and dedicates his time to directing a ballet school in Atlanta. With "The Little Mermaid," he and Greg have an arduous task before them, rehearsing the 100 participants, maybe appearing in some scene as well.

Just to be in Cebu is enough for Nicholas, collaborating with his mentor, and accepting the hospitality of a magnanimous **Sue Gray**, who will house Nick and Greg in her Paradise Village villa, Snug Harbour.

Swiss trio

Markus Stern, honorary consul of Switzerland in Cebu, has been in touch with the Arts Council. This has to do with the Cebu performance of the world-acclaimed Trio La Tache, one of the best Swiss musical groups.

Its performance is also in September, at the Europa Deli on Ramos Street, which is decorated like a typical Swiss chalet. The artists are **Curdin Coray** (cello), **Urs Brugger** (clarinet) and **Hansjorg Koch** (piano), who will find a wonderful instrument to play on at Europa.

A few years ago, when Markus' grandfather died, he left him a grand piano of fine walnut wood. Markus brought it to Cebu, and it is now at the Europa. It is in fine condition and nightly diners are regaled with beautiful music from it.

LOIC Pierre Daniel, Richard Forteau, Petite Garcia and Alexandre Tharaud

MARGIE Sy, Alice Plaza and Victoria Hermosisima

ELENA Chiongbian and Vice Mayor Mike Rama

MARITER Klepp, Amparito Lhuillier and Clint Escaño

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Herdelinda Fernandez
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Judith Quizona
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IT'S OUR NATURE TO CARE. TOTAL

Red tape and rip-off at city hall

THE CONSUMER

Marietta Velasco Giron

ALMOST everyone who applies for construction permits at government offices has disgusting stories about red tape and under-the-table deals. It's a crying shame, griped an overseas worker (bernieql@hotmail.com) who related to us the ordeals he went through applying for permits and certificates. The worker decided to come home after two years in Malaysia to build a new house for his family

"First, my contractor left me in the middle of the construction after getting advance payments. Then I had to pay 'grease money' to speed up the processing of various construction permits," he recalled.

"I was told earlier that I had to pay *lagay* to two house inspectors if I wanted my application papers (to move) at the local fire department and building permit office. Instead of two inspectors from the local building administration office, five came to check my house. Needless to say, every one expected favors. What's more, to get the electrical permit required by Meralco for the installation of an electric meter, I had to buy four fire extinguishers from a supplier recommended by the fire chief's office."

The former overseas worker commented: "When we finally moved into the new house, I was advised to pay the (real estate) tax immediately. It goes without saying that (some people claimed) they could reduce the amount on the tax declaration assessment in exchange for some consideration."

Gigi Osorio of INQUIRER related how a city hall clerk gypped her when she applied for a certificate of electrical inspection. She needed the certificate to ask Meralco for an additional electric meter. "Aside from the regular application fee, I was told to pay P500 to facilitate the process, P200 for the guy who would follow up the application, and P1,250 as Meralco deposit.

"The application was filed in February and I kept following it up for months. Then I was told my paper was misplaced and I had to pay another P700 for the affidavit of loss. It was only when I complained to the supervisor that I realized I've been gypped. My application was approved months earlier."

ATM woes and brownouts

Last week, a depositor tried to withdraw money from an ATM in Better Living. When the machine did not dispense cash after releasing her card, the employee left, thinking the ATM could not process her request. She tried her luck later, only to find out that the machine dispensed the cash she tried to withdraw earlier. Obviously, the ATM released her money after she left and someone found the cash and pocketed it.

An employee of the Philippine Textile Research Institute (PTRI) tried to withdraw her salary last July 18 from the ATM of the Land Bank Bicutan branch. All she got after waiting for 10 minutes was her card. But she had the presence of mind to alert the bank counter about the failed transaction.

Based on other complaints we received this week about the said ATM, something must be wrong with the machine at the Bicutan branch. The PTRI employee griped, "That darn machine does these three things: it takes so long to process transactions, it 'eats' up the card, or it 'hangs' while processing transactions."

Maria Carmelita Castro, bank manager, offers this explanation: "We had several power failures and problems with our telephone line connection affecting our ATM transactions this week. There is definitely nothing wrong with the ATM machine because it's brand new," she assured clients. She advised customers, "Please consult the counter about irregularities. If you are in a hurry, make transactions over the counter."

Speaking of power failures, why are we experiencing brief power interruptions day and night? It wreaks havoc on our computers, refrigerators and other appliances. Are consumers paying Meralco more for sudden power surges every time these trip-offs happen?

Phone scam

Mandy Navasero, commercial photographer and INQUIRER columnist, wants to warn parents about persons trying to extort money from kids by telephone. She told us the following story:

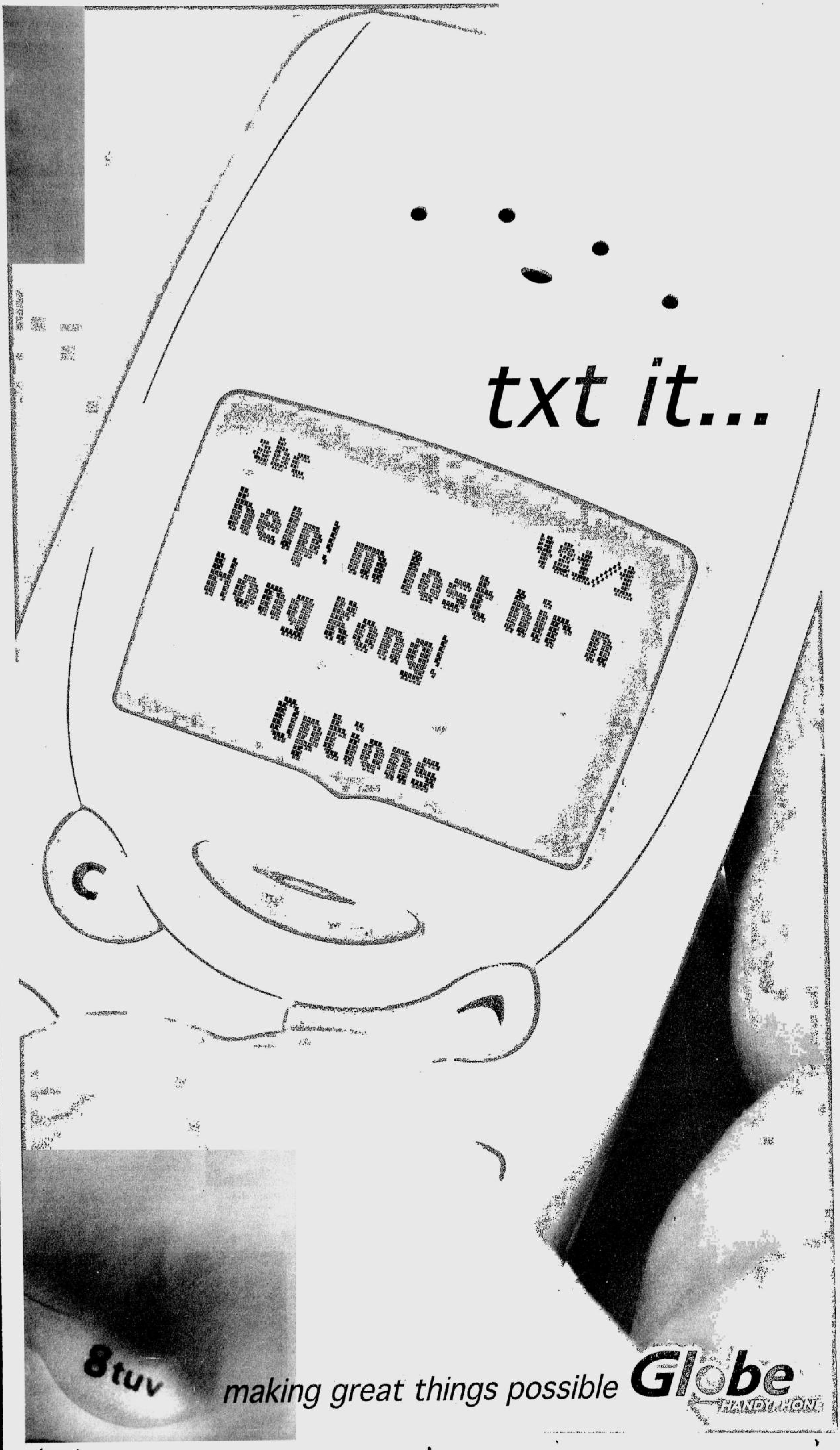
"I intercepted the telephone call of a girl who asked to speak to my daughter Imogene. Thinking I was Imogene, the caller introduced herself as Tracy Sampson, a member of the Iglesia Ni Kristo. Right away she asked, 'Do you have money to donate to Iglesia ni Kristo?' When I asked how she got our telephone number, she said it was computer-generated."

Navasero said she introduced herself and told the caller pointedly that she shouldn't go around asking money from kids. "I was appalled by the response. The caller remained cool and simply told me she had limited time to talk."

Good buys at Tesda *tiangge*

Benjie Angeles, coordinator of AANI food festival at Tesda, East Service Road, South Superhighway, is inviting the public this weekend to "Sariwang Gulay, Prutas, Pagkain, Atbp," a big gathering of food processors, farmers, and agri-aqua producers. There will be lectures and demonstrations, as well as trade linkage between producers, traders, and marketers. Available are coffee beans from Amadeo, smoked fish (*tinapa*) from Salinas, organic rice from Nueva Ecija, native sweets, preserves, handicrafts, etc.

Email the author at mgiron@i-manila.com.ph or lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph



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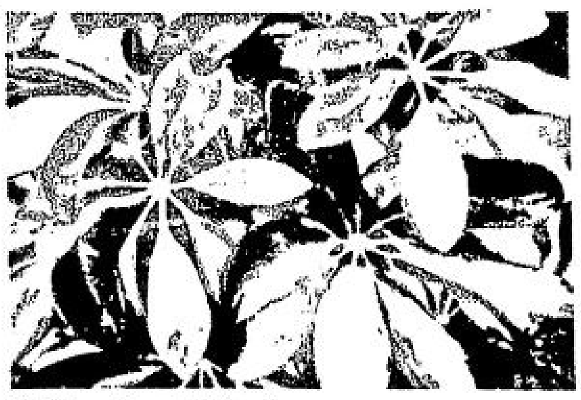
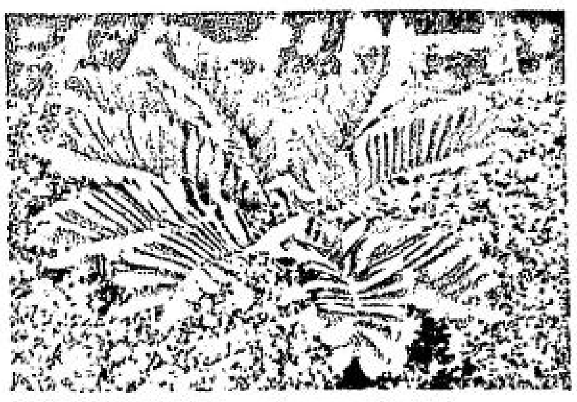
CAMIA in bloom

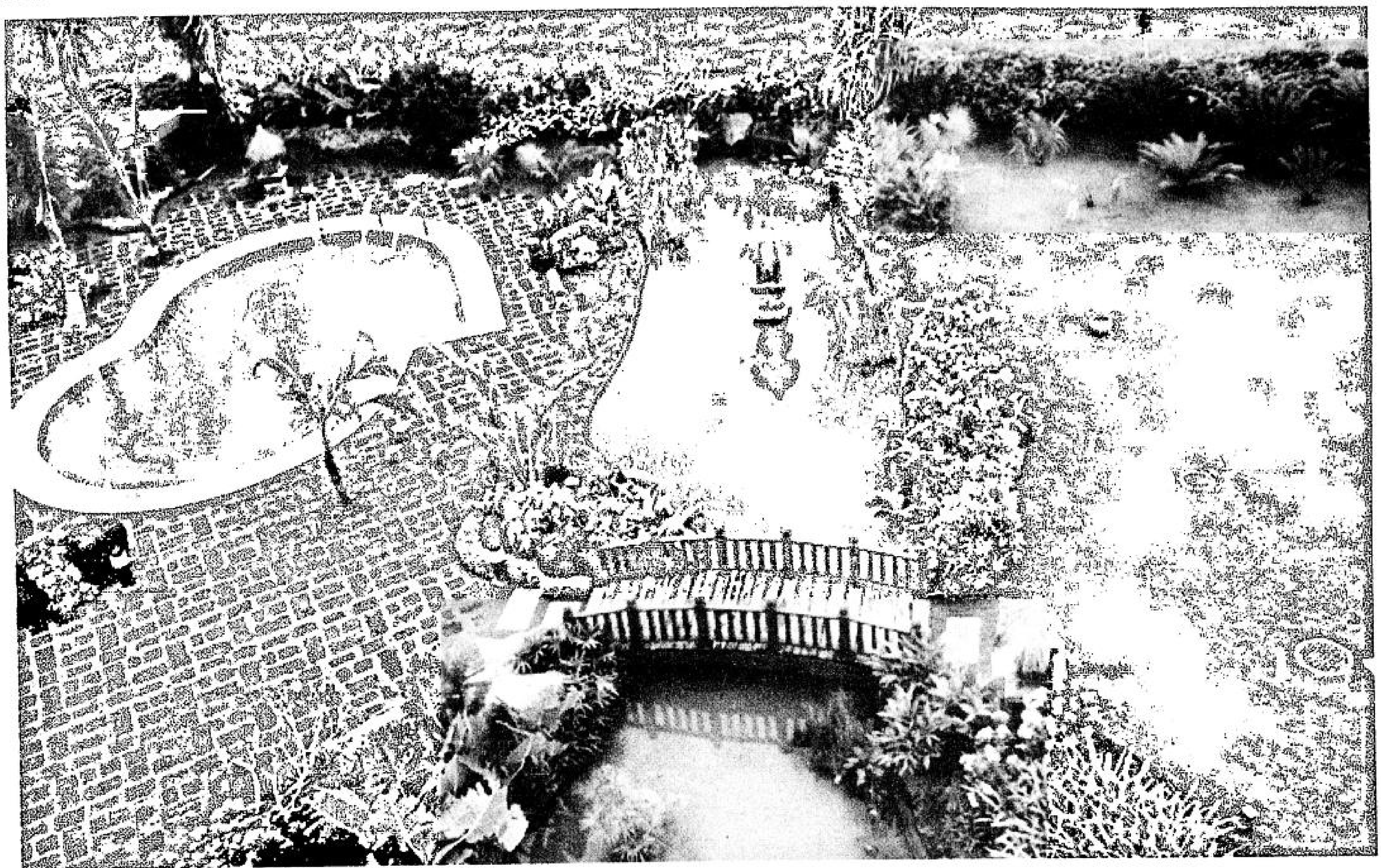
STAR CLUSTER plant



RARE variegated shrub



LANDSCAPER'S favorite accent plant



BALINESE-INSPIRED garden seen from atop the View Tower

STA. Elena Village-Banahaw: "An escape for jaded city people"

Graceful living amid forests and fairways

From page D1

clude rare *betis, bagtikan, lamio, guijo, lipote, palosapis, dita.*"

Tantoco Sr. wanted a lot of trees planted in Sta. Elena properties. In addition to the 10-year-old trees, there are 3,500 seedlings and saplings. This year, another batch of 150 native species will be added to the tree population. Doubtless they would include fruit and berry trees for the growing population of birds.

Bird sanctuary and gardens

"See there, that's a moorhen or *ulok.*" De Vera was again excited as he stepped on the brake. He informed us that moorhens were also called Gallinules. They live near the lake like railbirds and herons. "We have two kinds, the *rufous night heron* and the *purple heron.*"

He shared his binoculars with us so we could watch the *kilyawan* (orioles), bee-eaters, *bantay pari* (pied-triller), *tarat* (shrieks), *bato-batong tulog* (fruit dove), *turiok* (cane grass warbler). The bird habitat has 102 species. A bird scientist undertook the inventory, de Vera said. A list of the bird population is available at the Sta. Elena office.

Five lakes are found on the gently rolling landscape, but the most enchanting (still nameless) is across *casita,* the little house surrounded by a flower garden. Blooming this time of the year are yellow bells, *caña pistola* or *bandera española,* kiss-me-quick, begonias and the "Elenita Binay" duranta.

Bog plants around the tranquil lake make for a postcard-pretty picture. We saw the familiar hotdog grass, papyrus reeds and taliah. There was *tikiw*, the swamp weed which, de Vera said, was exported to Italy where the stalks were made into straw to hold bottles of Chianti wine.

"I love to spend time here near the lake. At night, you hear nature sounds and you wake up with bird songs," Gippy commented. The sight, he said, reminded him of the beautiful lakes of New Jersey and the Adirondacks of upstate New York.

Some days, the herons are said to stalk the lake for food. Other birds also visit the lake at different seasons of the year. De Vera ticked their names off his fingers: yellow vented *bulbul*, yellow-breasted wren warbler, cane grass warbler and sunbirds.

Blooming plants and lush foliage shrubs line the paths to the different holes on the fairways. There are gardenias, *camias* and *acapulcos* on the sunny areas. Under the canopies of trees are shade tolerant varieties like the rare medinilla shrubs, jacobinias, heliconias and crossandras.

Educational tours

"We encourage student groups to watch the birds and get a different perspective of golf course development," de Vera explained. "What sets us apart from other developments is our honest commitment to create a residential community and habitat for birds and butterflies at the same time, within a golf course."

Surely, not too many people will protest to sharing a community with flora and fauna.

E-mail the author at mgiron@i-manila.com.ph

GIPPY Tantoco at bridge of sign in Balinese-inspired garden

FOREST plant blooms near hole no. 18

WATER reeds and lotus in garden pond

GARDEN bench flanked by kiss-me-quick hedges

117
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TRAVEL

Editor **Rosario A. Garcellano**

BARANGAY youth celebrate the fruit...

The festival is 10 years old—and counting. And for 10 days, the town was in the throes of excitement

ineapple is king in Daet

Text and photos by Amadis Ma. Guerrero
Contributor

THE TOWN of Daet, capital of Camarines Norte—warm and sun-drenched by day, cool at night because of the coast, which faces the Pacific Ocean—lies 350 kilometers south of Manila. The trip there takes about eight hours by bus.

The journey began in Pasay City at 11 a.m. The Philtranco bus passed through Laguna, the long Maharlika Highway in Quezon, and then, in Camarines Norte, tackled the equally lengthy mountain-zigzag in the big towns of Santa Elena and Labo.

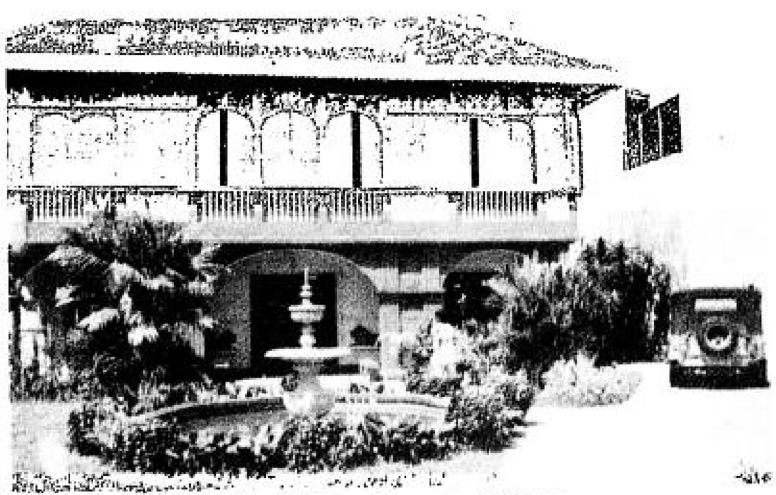
Along the way we got an eyeful of green hills, valleys, fields, foliage and palm trees.

There were two stops that day: briefly in Laguna, and then in Quezon for lunch (2 p.m.). Later the driver stopped intermittently to take in more passengers but, to my consternation, there were no more "comfort stops." I had to sit tight for five hours—an ordeal for someone like myself.

Mercifully, the inconvenience that day was minimal. But after five hours, I asked the driver to stop so I could relieve myself in the now darkened highway, and was chagrined that no one followed my example.

The roads were good all the way to Daet, which is known for its first ever monument to Jose Rizal. It was unveiled in 1898, two months before the outbreak of war with the United States.

The places to stay in town include the hotels Mega Star, Dolor, Mikael, and Canimog. As for food, Chinese-style dishes are served at the new Central Plaza Restaurant. And at the row of restos near and along Bagasbas, there's fine grilled food like tuna belly, squid, and *sisig* (made of pig's head).



TREASURE: the Rufino Pabico Ancestral Home

...DRESSED in green and yellow costumes...

Right in downtown Daet is a living museum, the Rufino Pabico Ancestral Home, constructed in 1917 and the scene of high-society balls in the 1930s. During World War II the Japanese command took over the mansion, but the American forces reclaimed it at war's end.

A strong typhoon partially destroyed the house in 1995, but it was later restored to its original design. A quaint fountain stands before the stately red-and-white façade of the mansion, with its *ventanillas* (grilled openings) and capiz-shell windows. The portals are guarded by sculptural lions.

In the interiors are a grand stairway, vintage photos of the family, floral designs, wall paintings, a Cornish piano, and pre-war chandeliers. Our host Bernard Supetran, a consultant of Daet Mayor Tito S. Sarion, said the living room would be a perfect venue for an old-style, intimate concert, a *tertulia*.

"We could invite someone like pianist Raul Sunico," Bernard suggested, and immediately sent a text message broaching the idea to pianist-impresario Zenas Reyes Lozada in Metro Manila.

Zenas responded: "What is the condition of the piano?" Well, it needs tuning up, Bernard and I concluded.

The government of Camarines Norte considers the Pabico ancestral home a cultural treasure of the province, and has given the present owner, Francisco Pabico Timoner, a plaque to this effect.

The main product of the province and town is pineapple.

The fruit is believed to have been first grown in Brazil and Paraguay, and then spread throughout the continent by the Indians. In the late 15th century, the explorer Christopher Columbus brought it to Spain, and the Spaniards later introduced it in the Philippines.

The Camarines Norte pineapple weighs from 0.45 to 1.30 kilograms.

Its shape is round and tapered, with a yellow rind and deep yellow flesh, and the fruit itself is sweet and crisp to the bite. The so-called "queen" or "formosa" pineapple is the variety that is grown in the province.

It was the progressive mayor, Sarion, then a 26-year-old councilor, who first proposed a pineapple festival in Daet 10 years ago. The festival has grown through the years, drawing visitors from Metro Manila and neighboring provinces and guest dance troupes that showcase the history of Bicolandia.

"Pinyasan 2002," or the 10th Pineapple Festival, was held in Daet on June 15-24. And for 10 days, the town was in throes of excitement.

President Macapagal-Arroyo breezed into town to distribute certificates, and scolded officials of an agency withholding certain information from her. Man-about-town Miguel Zubiri, the representative of Bukidnon, dropped by, shook hands, waved at his fans, wished the festival well, talked to the media, and took his leave.

The guest of honor, Tourism Secretary Richard Gordon, was a no-show, having radioed that his plane encountered zero visibility in the mountains of Quezon and had to return to Manila.

The 10-day flurry of activities included Masses, beach games and aquasports, trade fairs, variety shows, the inevitable beauty contest, fashion shows, parades, a flower drop upon downtown Daet by the Philippine Air Force, and even a scriptwriting workshop by Ricky Lee, a native of the town.

In front of the Hotel Dolor, where some of the media guests were billeted, an outdoor café was set up at night and there was live, ear-splitting entertainment until 3 a.m. At 5:30 a.m., the sound system blared anew with a cacophony of rock-disco music.

Then the beat suddenly became Latino, with a lively dance version of "La Cucaracha." And I remembered the Spanish song we used to sing as children: "*La cucaracha, la cucaracha, ya no puede mas casar/ Porque le falta, porque le falta marijuana que fumar!*" (Simply put, "the cockroach cannot get married because she lacks marijuana to smoke.")

This was followed by that popular but suggestive French song: "*Voulez vous couché avec moi ce soir?*" (Translation censored)

On June 23, Daeteños thronged the sidewalks to watch the parade floats and the pineapple contingents as they danced through the streets en route to the Central Plaza Complex, where the competitions were held.

GIANT replica of the annual bounty

The dancers, clad in green and yellow costumes, were mostly youths from the different barangays. The girls wore pineapple headdresses, while the boys carried baskets laden with the fruit.

The air was pungent with the scent of fresh, uncut pineapple. There were giant replicas of the fruit borne by the youths, while a carabao, serving as mascot, snaked through the parade grounds. Wood percussion instruments provided the beat.

The program started late. The guest dance troupes from the other cities and towns in Bicol first showed their wares, as the people strained forward and the marshals had to wave them back. Then the pineapple contingents followed, and it was evening by the time the ceremonies ended.

For the Daeteños, that was the first highlight. The festival was capped the following day by "An Evening with Yna," (ticket P75 per) featuring popular actress Kristine Hermosa of the telenovela "Pangako sa Iyo." It is said the young star had 150,000 reasons for appearing live in Daet.

Things returned to normal only the following day, as the thrill of excitement finally subsided. And Daet chalked up another milestone in its cultural history.

...AND bearing whatzis on their heads.

Who's afraid of long-haul travel?

SINGAPORE Airlines has made long-haul travel much more attractive with its SpaceBeds for Raffles class passengers.

The SpaceBed is a seat that reclines into a flat bed, which, at 27 inches wide and six feet, six inches long, is said to be the biggest bed in the sky. It allows multiple body positions for the passenger and its cushioning system fits the body's contour. It also has adjustable privacy dividers and more personal storage and show stowage space.

Each SpaceBed is equipped with KrisWorld, SIA's in-flight entertainment system that produces high-quality digital sound and pictures on a 10.4-inch monitor. It offers a variety of movies, short features and CD music, and PC and Game Boy games.

For those who prefer to work, a 110-volt laptop power supply is available at every seat.

The SpaceBed was introduced last month in SIA's late-night flight from Singapore to London. By mid-2003, the airline's entire fleet of intercontinental services, including all flights to London and selected flights to Las Vegas, Sydney, Frankfurt, New York and Tokyo, will have SpaceBeds in the Raffles class.

The welcome news for claustrophobic passengers is SIA's spacious Boeing 777 aircraft, which now services its thrice-daily flights from Manila to Singapore.

In the first class cabin, the 21-inch seats have five feet of space between them. In the Raffles class, seats are 20 inches wide.

And sitting in the Boeing 777 economy class need not mean scrimping on your comfort. The seats are 18.5 inches wide, said to be the widest in the airline industry. They have adjustable winged headrests and are complemented by footrests.

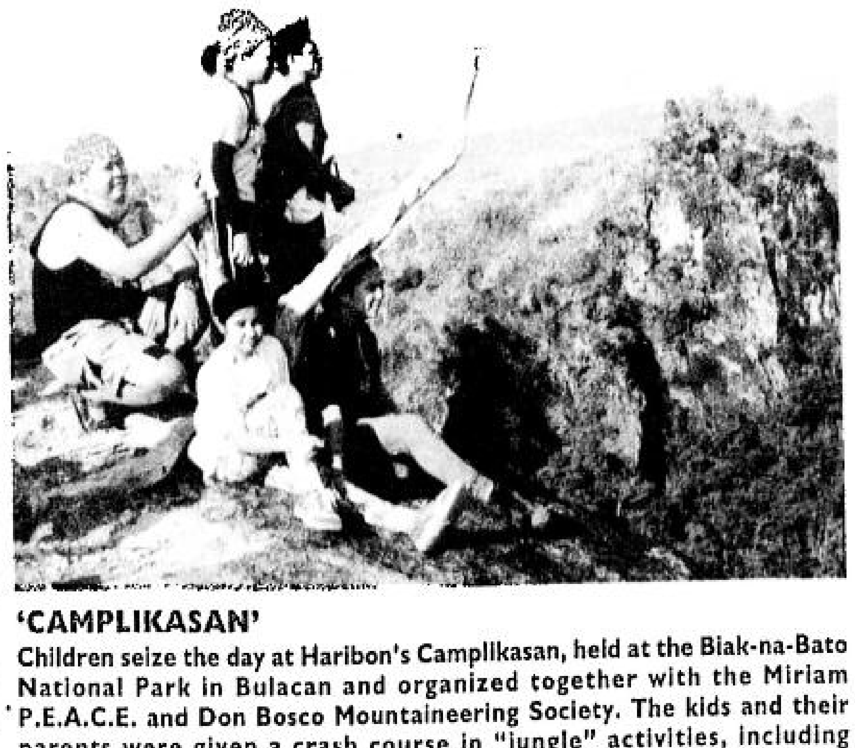
The cabin also has wider aisles and higher headroom. Even passengers who are six feet tall can stand erect comfortably, without running into overhead compartment bins. Those who have window seats have full-standing headroom.

On Aug. 2, SIA will have its inaugural flight to its newest destination—Las Vegas. There will be thrice-weekly flights from Singapore to Las Vegas via Hong Kong.

And if you can't have enough of texting while on the ground, the airline will soon allow you to do it in flight. The new integrated in-flight communicator in each seat allows passengers in all cabins to send a text message of up to 160 characters to an e-mail address or a mobile phone.

The messaging service will be launched during the inaugural flight to Las Vegas. It will be introduced later in other selected aircraft as well

Stella O. Gonzales



'CAMPLIKASAN'

Children seize the day at Haribon's Camplikasan, held at the Biak-na-Bato National Park in Bulacan and organized together with the Miriam P.E.A.C.E. and Don Bosco Mountaineering Society. The kids and their parents were given a crash course in "jungle" activities, including spelunking, bird watching, mountain climbing and ropemanship. For inquiries, call the Haribon Foundation at 434-8237, 436-4363 or 436-2756, or visit www.haribon.org.ph.

Polls: Germans best, Britons worst travelers

LONDON—Germans are the most welcome and Britons are the least wanted holidaymakers around the world, according to a survey published last Thursday.

The survey, carried out by the online travel agency Expedia at tourist offices in 17 countries from Cyprus to San Francisco, ranked Germans top of the list for behavior and linguistic efforts and second only to the Americans in politeness.

By contrast Britons were said to be the worst behaved and the rudest. They make no effort to speak the local language and are tight-fisted tippers.

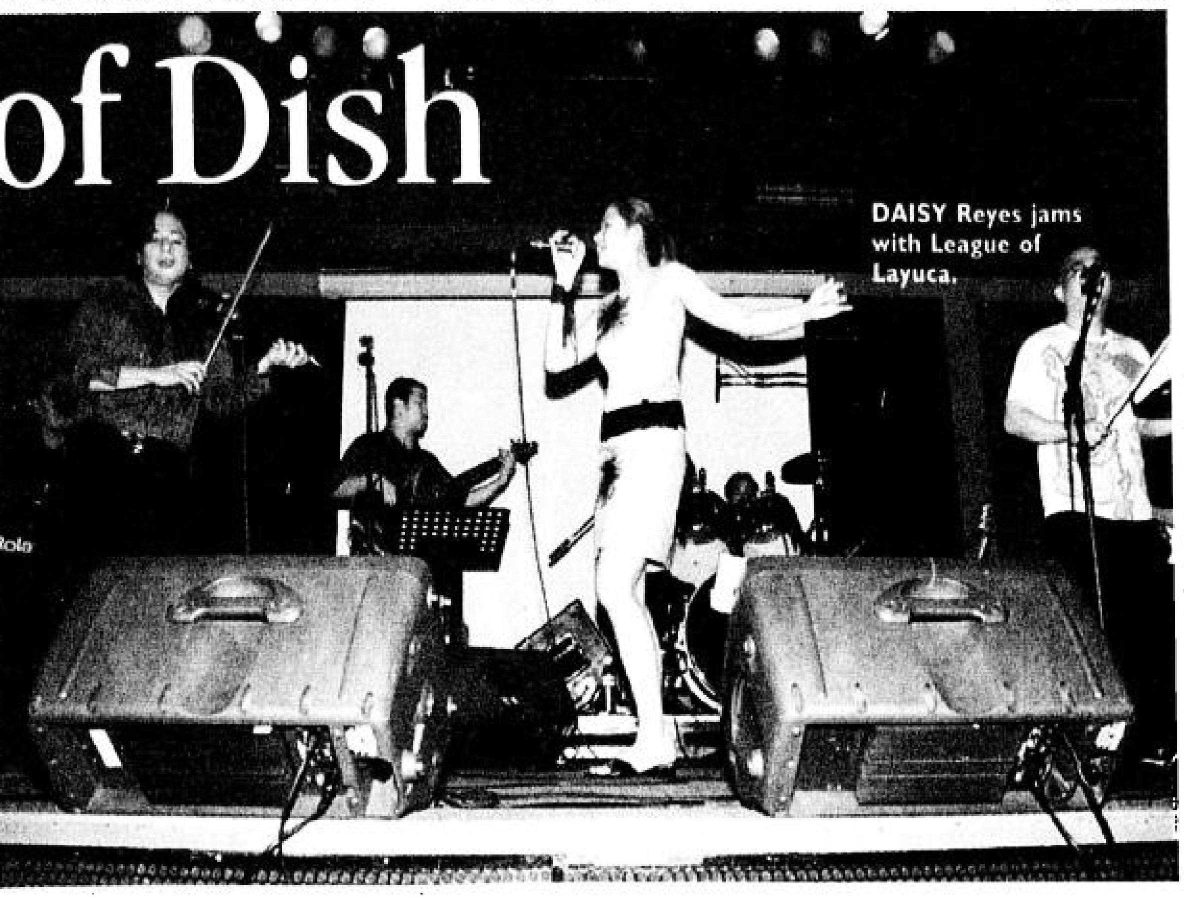
"British holidaymakers are some of the most widely traveled in the world, but that doesn't necessarily mean we're good at it," said Expedia.co.uk managing director Dermot Halpin.

"A little effort goes a long way in a foreign country," he said.

Reuters

A year of Dish

RAGE band



DAISY Reyes jams with League of Layuca.

DISH, one of the hottest night haunts in town, turned a rowdy one-year-old last Thursday at the third level of Rockwell's Power Plant Mall.

The popular social satellite, owned by the trio Philip Cu-Unjieng, EJ Litton and Rikki Dee, was packed with personalities from show biz, politics and the social circle.

Food, booze and live music were served to the max. Six bands—yes, six—took the stage one after the other: South Border, League of Cayuca, Side A, Rage Band, Hyperbeat and Elements.

Headturners Lana Asanin and Joyce Jimenez were spotted.

Actor Michael de Mesa came with a pretty date. Ricky Davao was by his lonesome. Trade and Industry Secretary Mar Roxas partied, too, but refused to be photographed.

Other partyphiles were designers Mike de la Rosa and Tonichi Nocum; ABS-CBN Publishing executive editor Thelma Sioson-San Juan, society columnist Maurice Arcache, Phillip's pretty wife Patricia Cu-Unjieng, talent manager Joji Dingcong, and young actress Michelle Quizon, the granddaughter of comedy king Dolphy.

Sports and TV personality Vince Hizon hosted a short program with ANC News Channel anchor Angel Jacob since part of the proceeds of Dish's two-night anniversary bash would be donated to the Make-a-Wish Foundation.

DISH owners Philip Cu-Unjieng and EJ Litton

PHOTOS BY JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

ASTRID Trichard and Vera Devriendt

ANGEL Jacob and Vince Hizon

PATRICIA Cu-Unjieng and Maurice Arcache

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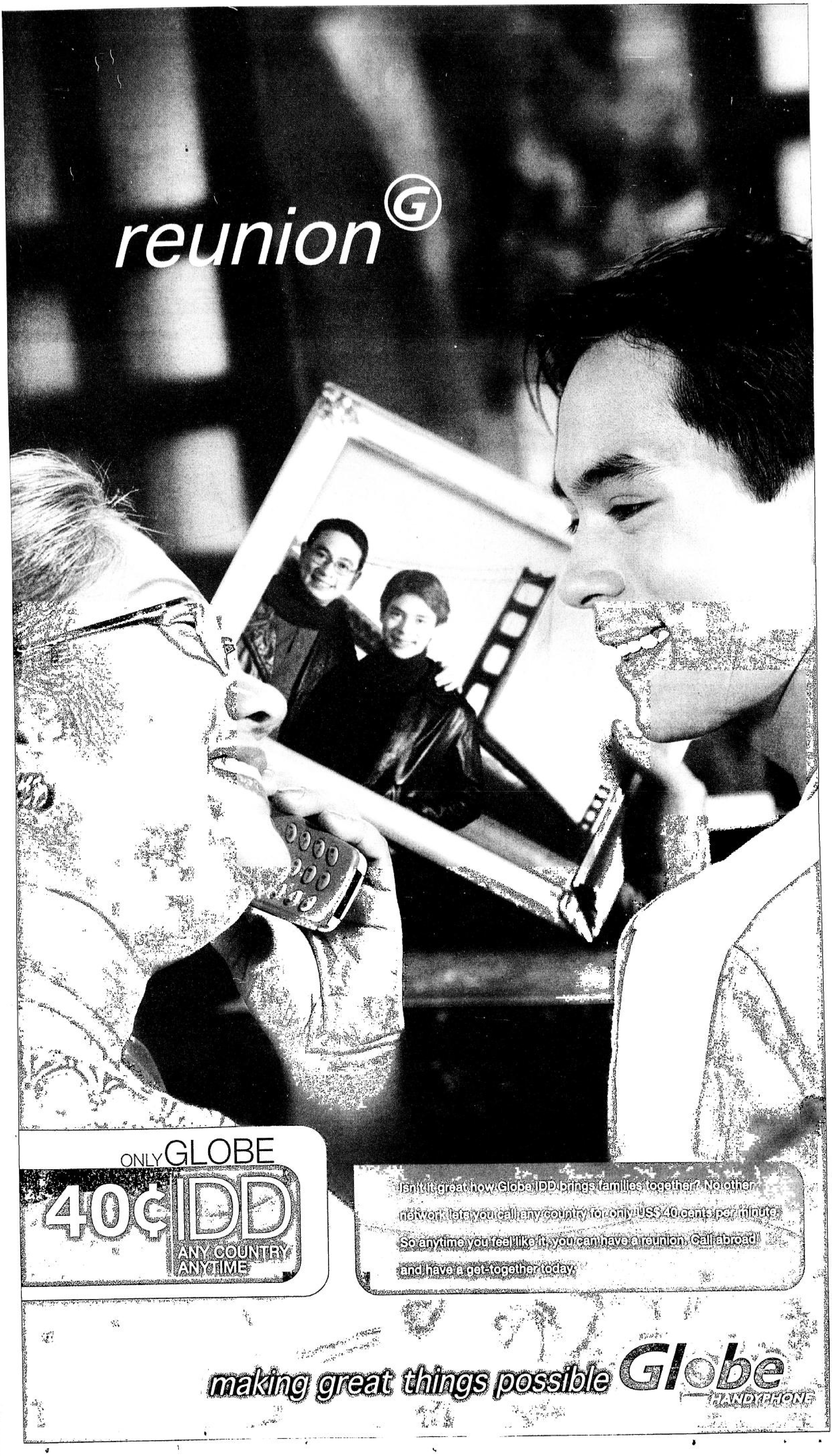

reunion

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Sunday LIFESTYLE

DIEGO Castro and his wife Lou Reine Ina

Memories and photographs

By Rowena C. Burgos

MANDY Navasero is not interested in photographing new things, but in seeing things in a new light.

A photographer, she says, has to seize the moment and occasionally act as stage manager of an event. A wedding, for instance, allows a visual composite of people and the building—usually the church—which are important if the photos are to stimulate memories later on.

"A bridal dress tends to be light and flowing; churches tend to be dark and certainly solid. Letting the two play off each other and capturing the key emotions are important elements," Navasero says.

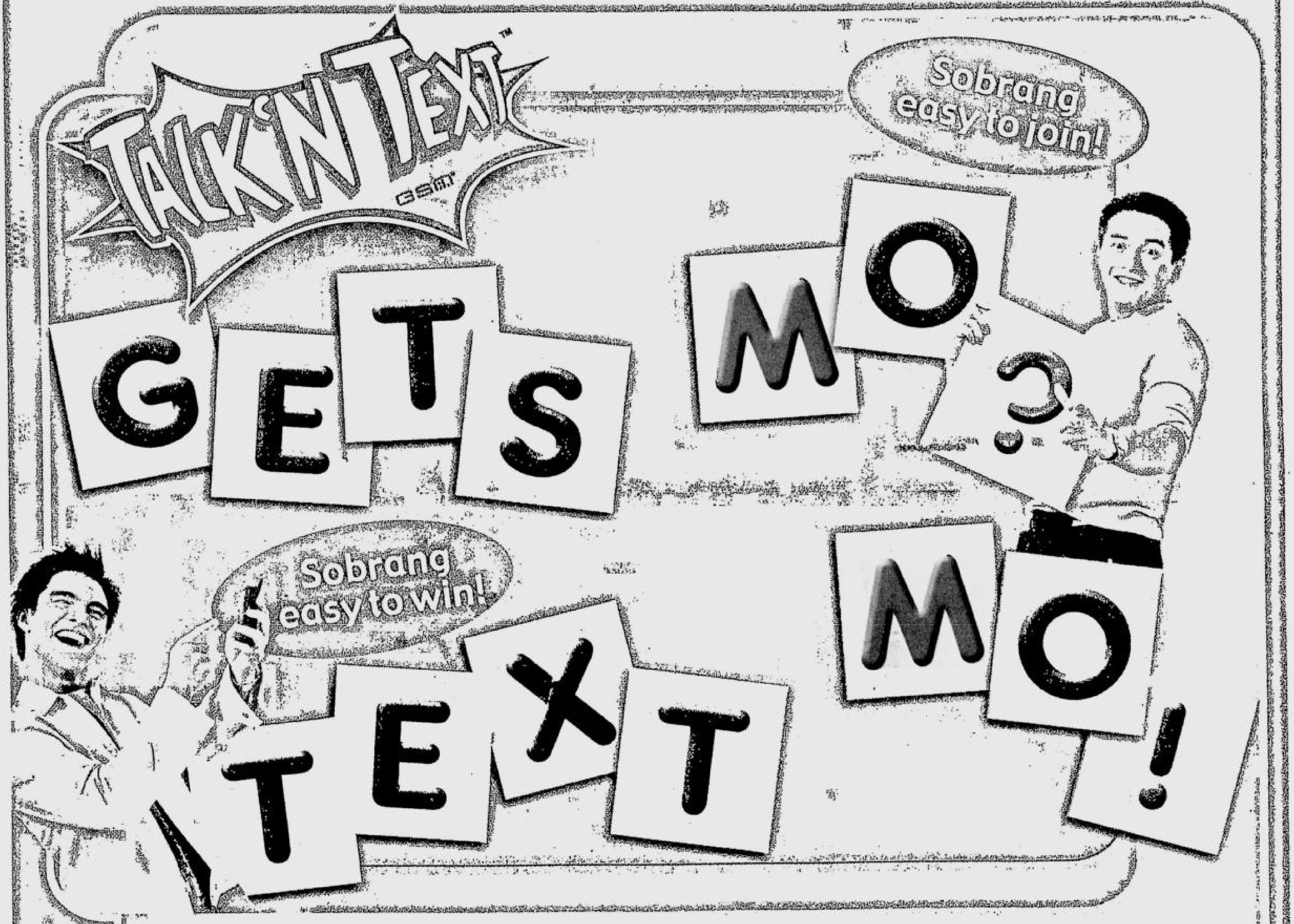
Essence of weddings

After months of planning and anxiously waiting for one of the most important days of a person's life, the wedding day finally comes and proves to be a big success. At the end of the day, after the last guest has left, pleasant memories of the occasion are fresh enough to bring a smile. But those moments will not be remembered forever without a little help. "That is why one of the most important aspects of planning your wedding is hiring a professional wedding photographer to capture the essence of your wedding day," Navasero says.

In all the weddings she has covered, which are mostly those of friends, Navasero has never failed to create unforgettable images and to preserve the memories of those occasions. Her photography is not limited to the ceremony and reception, but often includes informal engagement pictures, rehearsal dinner, getting ready at home, pre-ceremony preparations at the venue, pre-ceremony portraits, ceremony pictures, formal group pictures after the ceremony and, of course, reception activities and candid shots of families and guests.

Wedding photography is not supposed to be a single session but is a event-long process. So a couple should choose a photographer whom

MEMORIES / p.E6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P2.50 per transaction. Leave a space after each keyword.

Sobrang funny pa ang mga clues!

Sample Trivia Question

Anong klaseng animal si KingKong?
G _ R _ _ L A

Type Q and send to 264 to get the question of the day

Sample Fun Clue

Mali! Maitim ito at mabuhok...
G O R _ _ L A

Get fun clues kung di mo nakuha ang correct answer

Sample Answer

GORILLA

Type the answer...

264

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Milestones

We accept announcements of weddings and engagements. Please send in the following typewritten information: names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, gown designer and related brief information. Readers may send sketches of gowns and pictures of the couple at least one month before the wedding. This will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the sender.

FIGUEROA-VELAZCO

Giovanna Michaela Marie Velazco, daughter of Silang, Cavite Vice Mayor **Aristides C. Velazco** and **Catherine de Asis** of Dumaguete City, will wed lawyer **Roberto L. Figueroa**, son of the late **Felix** and **Teresita Figueroa**, on Aug. 8 at the Shrine of Jesus, the Way, the Truth and the Life, Pasay City. Reception will follow at the Hotel Inter-Continental.

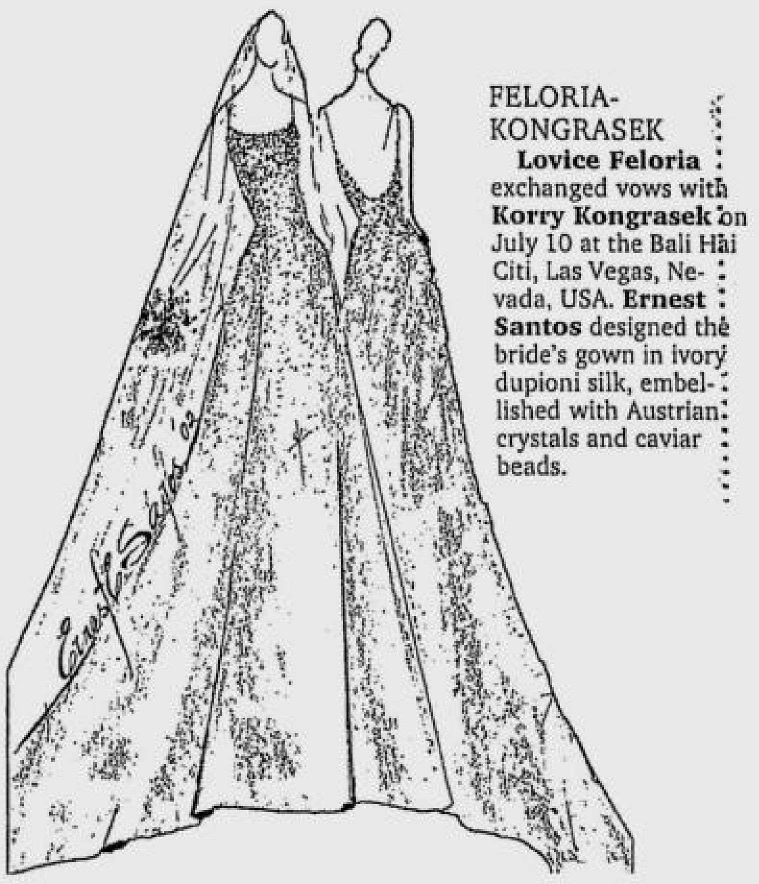
The bride will wear an embroidered *piña* gown with beadworks by **Patis Tesoro**.

LUZ-ARGUELLES

Leo Martin Luz, son of **Francisco Jr.** and **Annabelle Luz**, will wed **Therese Arguelles**, daughter of **Eduardo** and **Adeloisa Arguelles**, on Aug. 8 at Santuario de San Jose, Mandaluyong City. **Patis Tesoro** made the bridal gown.

GARCIA-LINTAN

Roy Garcia, son of **Renato** and **Sonia Garcia**, married **Maricel Lintan**, daughter of **Crispin** and **Filomena Lintan**, on June 29 at the St. John the Evangelist Parish Church in Tanauan, Batangas. The whole entourage wore Galatea creations by designers **Jontie** and **Nicky Martinez**.



FELORIA-KONGRASEK

Lovice Feloria exchanged vows with **Korry Kongrasek** on July 10 at the Bali Hai Citi, Las Vegas, Nevada, USA. **Ernest Santos** designed the bride's gown in ivory dupioni silk, embellished with Austrian crystals and caviar beads.

HUMAN
PRESENTS
MARGE ENRIQUEZ

A MULTI-MEDIA DANCE CONCERT

7:30 PM, THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 2002
ONSTAGE THEATER, GREENBELT

TEXT: DADI JANKI DIRECTION: BART GUINGONA
CHOREOGRAPHY: DOUGLAS NIERRAS MUSIC: ORVILLE TIAMSON
VIDEO: ED LEJANO AND AV1 MEDIA VISUAL ARTS: IMPY PILAPIL, RACHY CUNA
CREATIVE DIRECTION: ANTONIO SALAC SANTOS & ERNEST SANTIAGO
COSTUMES: INNO SOTTO MAKEUP: PATRICK ROSAS FOR SHISEIDO
PHOTOGRAPHY: JUN DE LEON

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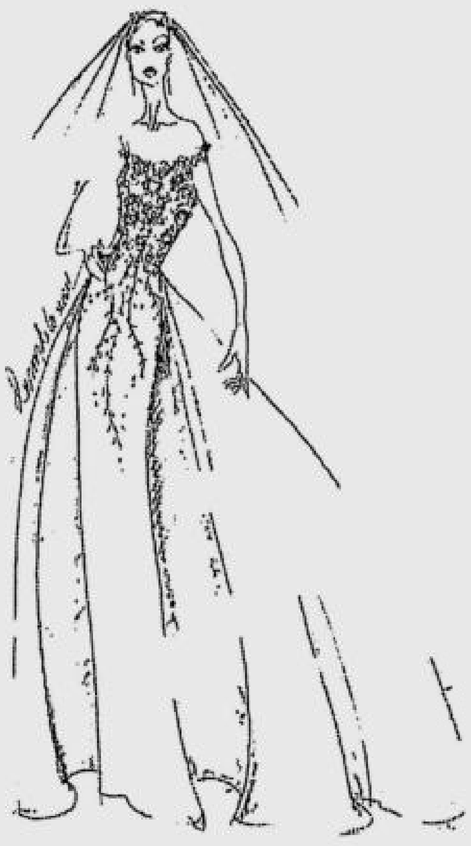
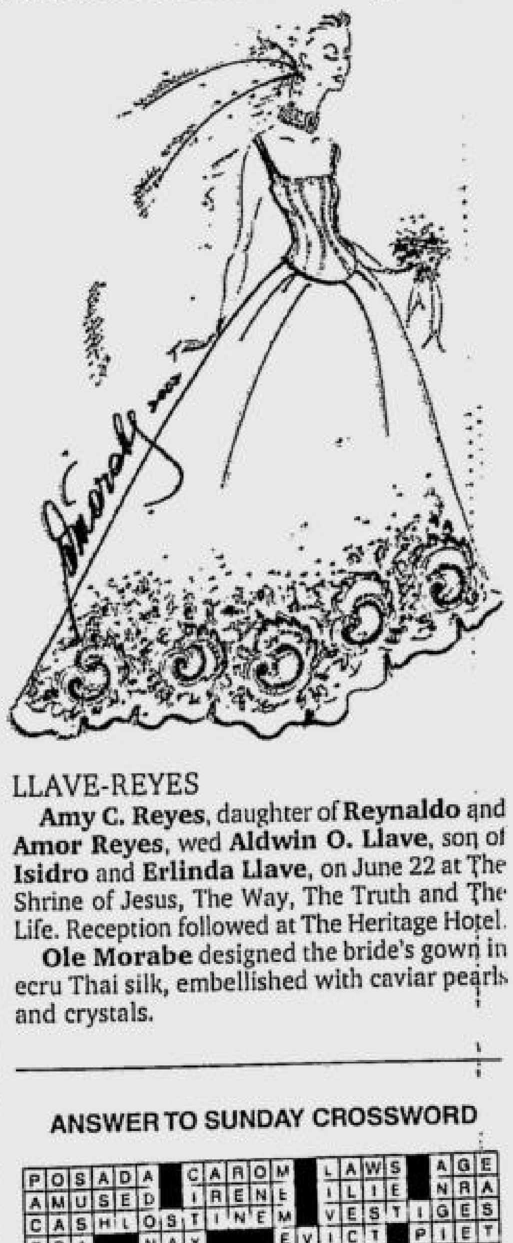


DE GUZMAN-MACALINDONG

Manny de Guzman, son of **Fidel** and **Aurelia de Guzman**, wed **Pearl R. Macalindong**, daughter of **Simeon** and **Pat Macalindong**, on June 23 at the Santuario de San Antonio, Makati City. Reception was held at the Makati Shangri-Lal. **Danny de la Cuesta** designed the gowns of the bride and her entourage.

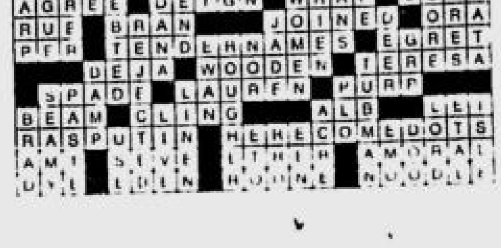


LLAVE-REYES

Amy C. Reyes, daughter of **Reynaldo** and **Amor Reyes**, wed **Aldwin O. Llave**, son of **Isidro** and **Erlinda Llave**, on June 22 at The Shrine of Jesus, The Way, The Truth and The Life. Reception followed at The Heritage Hotel.

Ole Morabe designed the bride's gown in ecru Thai silk, embellished with caviar pearls and crystals.

ANSWER TO SUNDAY CROSSWORD

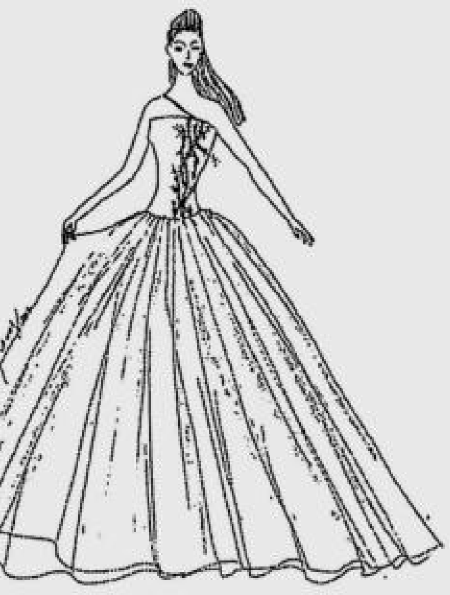


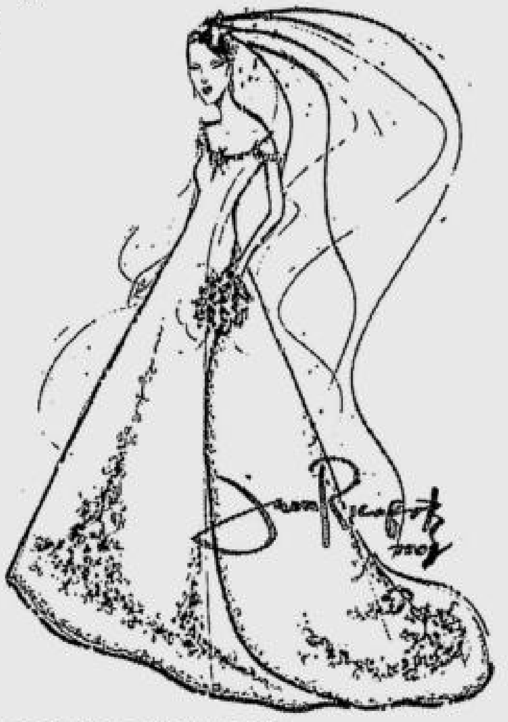
Milestones

ARAULLO-CAJAYON

Manuel Jose "Majo" Araullo, son of **Felipe** and **Evelyn Araullo**, and **Anna Clarissa Cajayon**, daughter of **Redentor** and **Paz Cajayon**, recently exchanged "I do's" at the Nuestra Señora de Gracia Parish in Makati City. Dinner reception followed at the ballroom of Mandarin Oriental Manila.

Risa was resplendent in her pristine white gown created by **Mila Santiago-de Leon.**





AVANCEÑA DEBUT

Glaiza Joy R. Avanceña, a nursing sophomore at Centro Escolar University and eldest daughter of **Jun** and **Gretchen Avanceña,** celebrated her 18th birthday June 30 at the penthouse of C & N Building, Pateros.

She wore a gown of misty blue silk with an asymmetric strap and cascading grapevine beadwork of multicolored crystals and rhinestones on the bodice. The ball skirt was made of layered tulle and silk organza. **Richard Ramos** designed and executed the gown as well as the balloon décor of the venue.

SANTOS-GONZALES

Maria Patricia Gonzales, daughter of **Patrocinio Gonzales**, and **Arnold Santos**, son of **Rosalina Santos**, received the Holy Sacrament of Matrimony on June 16 at the San Austin Church, Manila. Reception followed at Ilustrado.

The bride wore an off-white duchess satin gown embellished with cut glass, sugar beads and crystals by **Jun Ricaforte** of I Do. The entourage wore gowns in celadon green motif.

Heny Sison

THE ESSENTIAL COOKING SERIES
(August 10 - December 21, 2002)

This 20-day hands-on Essential Cooking Series is our innovative way of teaching the basics of cooking and baking. This program is for anyone who wants to work towards becoming a professional chef.

Classes begin on August 10 and are held Saturday of the month until December 21, 2002 from 10 AM to 4 PM.

THE ESSENTIAL BAKING & PASTRY SERIES
(August 22 - November 22, 2002)

The 26-day hands-on class will cover the basics of pastry, desserts and bread baking as well as cake decorating. It is suitable for those seeking an entry level position in a pastry shop, hotel or restaurant.

This program is a preparation for an exciting and rewarding career in baking and pastry arts.

The class will start on **August 22, 2002 and ends on November 22, 2002.** Classes are held on Thursdays, and Fridays from 10AM to 4PM.

Sign up now to secure your spot as the class size in limited to **16 students** only and fills up quickly. Tuition fee includes ingredients, manual, aprons, chef's jacket and chef's kit. For more information call Lirio at tel. #: 726-5316 / 412-7792.

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

August 3 (Saturday) 9:30-5:00 p.m. P2,500 PIZZA CLASS WORKSHOP by: Chef Giorgio Bucciarelli, Master Pizzaiolo & Barista, Food Consultant of various Italian restaurants all over Metro Manila, graduated at Culinary Institute, Milan Italy
*In this class you will learn the history, concept and design of pizza making. Learn how to make pizza dough, tomato sauce base, white sauce base, preparation, setting up a pizza counter, know the ingredients and toppings. **Recipes:** Margherita, Napoli Classica, 4 Formaggi, Pizza Vegetariana, La Gibiana, Piccantina, 4 Stagioni, Calzone & Frutti di Mare. **Demonstration with student participation.**

August 5-8 (Monday-Thursday) 9:00-4:00 p.m. P5,000 CAKE DECORATING COURSE III by: Heny Sison, *Learn how to create a tiered wedding cake, embellishing borders, side borders, stringwork, filigree, fancy flowers, color flow on cookies, sugar molding, lattice for the side of the cake and tiered cake ideas. The grand finale to course 3 is an impressive wedding cake. **Full participation.**

August 9 (Friday) 10:00-4:00 p.m. P2,500 BANANA FAVORITES by: Jane Paredes, Chef / Food Consultant, co-owner of Café Cornucopia, trained at the Culinary Institute of America, Hyde Park, New York and Peter Kump's New York Cooking School *5-star Banana Bread, Banana Caramel Tart, Banana Choco Chip Muffin, Banana Bran Muffin & Homemade Banana Catsup. **Demonstration with student participation.**

August 12 (Monday) 9:30-4:00 p.m: P2,500 BASIC FLOWER ARRANGEMENT by: Glenn Remorca, floral designer, owner Flowers of San Gregorio
*Learn the theories, styles, trends, techniques, sourcing, flower care and maintenance, basic forms, arrangements and flowers for weddings. Lecture, demonstration and hands-on production. Bring a pair of scissors.

August 13 (Tuesday) 9:30-4:00 p.m. P1,500 CAKE ART SPECIALTIES III by: Jill Sandique, Chef / Food Consultant & Food Stylist, Blue Ribbon graduate of Peter Kump's New York Cooking School *Concorde, White Chocolate Mousse, Sour Cream Streusel Coffee Cake, Chocoholic's Delight, Fruit Tarts, Cocoa and Lemon Biscuits

August 14 (Wednesday) 9:00-12:30 p.m. P1,500 A COOKIE JAR by: Jill Sandique, *Angel's Sign, Walnut Balls, Almond Crescents, Traditional Peanut Butter Cookies, Turtle Bites and Cheddar Cheese Crackers.

August 14 (Wednesday) 1:30-5:00 p.m. P1,700 FLAVORS OF SINGAPORE by: Aileen Anastacio, Chef / Food Consultant, owner of C'est Si Bon and Goodies N' Sweets, Dean's list graduate of culinary at the California Culinary Academy
*Popiah, Black Pepper Crab, Hainanese Chicken Rice, Spicy Kangkong & Black Rice Pudding

August 15 (Thursday) 9:30-12:30 p.m. P1,500 A COOKIE PLATTER by: Jill Sandique *Apple Bar's Caramel Pecan Diamonds, Raspberry Nut Fingers, Pebble Bars, Double Chocolate Brownies & Breakfast Cookies

August 15 (Thursday) 1:30-5:00 p.m. P1,700 THAI COOKING II by: Aileen Anastacio *Eggplant Salad, Thai Spring Roll, Fried Rice in Pineapple, Chicken with Thai Basil & Banana Fritters in Coconut Batter

August 16 (Friday) 9:30-4:00 p.m. P1,500 EDIBLE GIFTS FOR CHRISTMAS by: Jill Sandique *Chocolate Pecan Coffee Cake, Orange-Glazed Bundt Cake, Lattice-topped Apple Pie with Cider Sauce, Chocolate Caramel Tart, Christmas Cookies and Chocolate Chip Banana Loaf

August 17 (Saturday) 9:30-5:00 p.m. P2,500 FRESH PASTA by: Chef Giorgio Bucciarelli * There is simply no comparison between homemade pasta and the store bought stuff. Homemade is not only tastier but a lot easier to make than you think. Learn how to make pasta egg dough, green spinach dough, black pasta dough, different kinds of pastas: lasagna, green lasagna, ravioli, tortellini, cannelloni, fettuccine: green & black, stuffings for ravioli, tortellini and cannelloni. Sauces for lasagna, tortellini, ravioli & cannelloni. **Recipes:** Lasagna alla Bolognese, Lasagna al 4 Formaggi, Lasagna al Pesto, Cannelloni alla Ricotta and Spinaci, Ravioli alla Boscaiola al Burro e Salvia, Tortellini al 4 Formaggi, alla Panna Prosciutto e Funghi, Green Fettuccine alla Montanara, Black Fettuccini al Frutti di Mare. **Demonstration with student participation.**

August 19 (Monday) 9:30-4:00 p.m. P1,700 HEARTY SOUPS & CASSEROLES II by: Jill Sandique *Chicken with 40 Gloves of Garlic, Chunky Vegetable Soup, New England Clam Chowder, Tortilla Casserole, Black Bean Soup and Southwestern Egg Dish

August 20 (Tuesday) 10:00-4:00 p.m. P1,200 DIMSUM I by: Katherine Sion, Restaurateur (Ding Hao & Fat Kat), caterer and an expert in Chinese Cuisine *Congee, Siomai, Dumpling Chicken Feet, Fried Shrimp Ball and Buchi

August 21 (Wednesday) 9:00-4:00 p.m. P2,500 DOUGHNUT WORKSHOP by: Jane Paredes *Sugar Honey-Glazed, Caramel-Pecan, Chocolate Nut, Mango Glazed, Chocolate Bavarian, Double Chocolate, Blueberry Filled, Strawberry Filled, Apple Filled, Twist Cinnamon Sugar & Beignets (French Doughnuts)

August 26 (Monday) 9:00-5:00 p.m. P2,500 BREAD BAKING BASICS A Workshop by: Heny Sison * This hands-on workshop is for the passionate bread baker! You will work with yeasted breads and expect to master the techniques of bread baking. **Recipes include:** Ensaymada, Pan de Sal Pan Americano, Spanish Bread, Cheeserolls, French Bread & Bread Stick

August 27 (Tuesday) 9:00-4:00 p.m. P2,000 HOLIDAY DESSERTS by: Heny Sison *Getting ready for the Holidays! Try these recipes: Fudgy Nut Cookies, Cashew Tart, Rum Cake, Devil's Food Cake Bar with Caramel Pecan Topping, Lemon Torte (most requested cake!) and Cookies and Cream Cake

August 28 (Wednesday) 9:30-4:00 p.m. P1,700 HOLIDAY GOODIES by: Jill Sandique *Buche de Noel, Madeleines, Italian Trifle, Financier, Chocolate Bross, Chocolate Almond Mousse and Macadamia Sans Rival

HENY SISON at Julius Maggi Kitchen, Nestle Bldg., # 31 Plaza Drive, Rockwell Center Makati City

August 3 (Saturday) 1:00-5:00 p.m. P1,500 BASIC CAKES & ICINGS FOR BEGINNERS * Butter Cake with Butter Icing, Moist Chocolate Cake with Fudge Icing, Mocha Cake with No-Melt Butter Icing, Lemon Chiffon Cake with Boiled Icing & Sponge Cake with Whipped Cream Icing

August 24 (Saturday) 1:00-5:00 p.m. P1,500 BROWNIES & BARS * Chewy Moist Brownies, Carrot Cake Bars with Cream Cheese Icing, Lemon Cheesecake Bars, Brownies with Caramel Center and Butterscotch Bars

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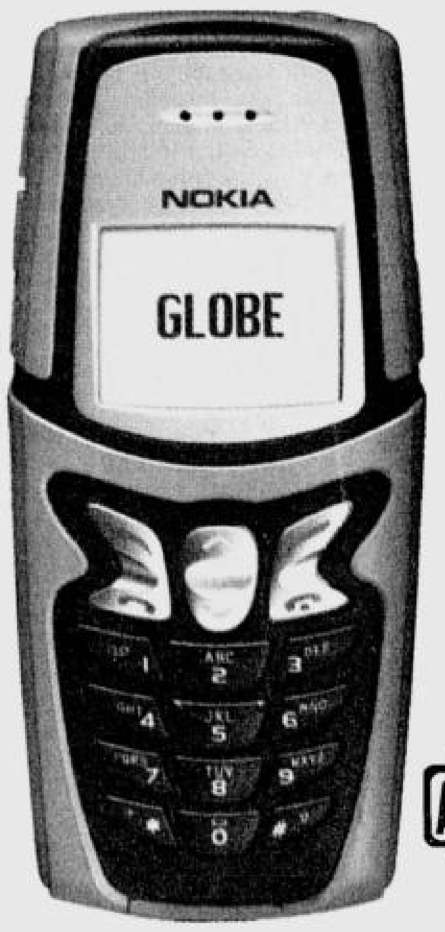

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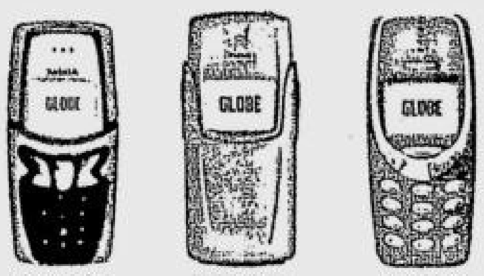

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rue love shines through unromantic proposal

E proposed inside a movie theater. The whole time he was talking, she was trying to ignore him. She could not believe that "the one" was actually proposing inside a movie theater. Worse, he was doing it without a ring.

It was so unromantic, too heartbreaking, she thought. She was thinking, "Is there some way to delay this proposal for another day?"

But the words he was saying were important, though. She could pretend not to hear them, but she could not pretend they did not matter. She searched deep in her heart for an appropriate response. A voice inside her told her to tell him how she truly felt.

So she closed her eyes and imagined they were somewhere else, somewhere far away. She started to listen intently to what he was saying. She knew she wanted to say yes.

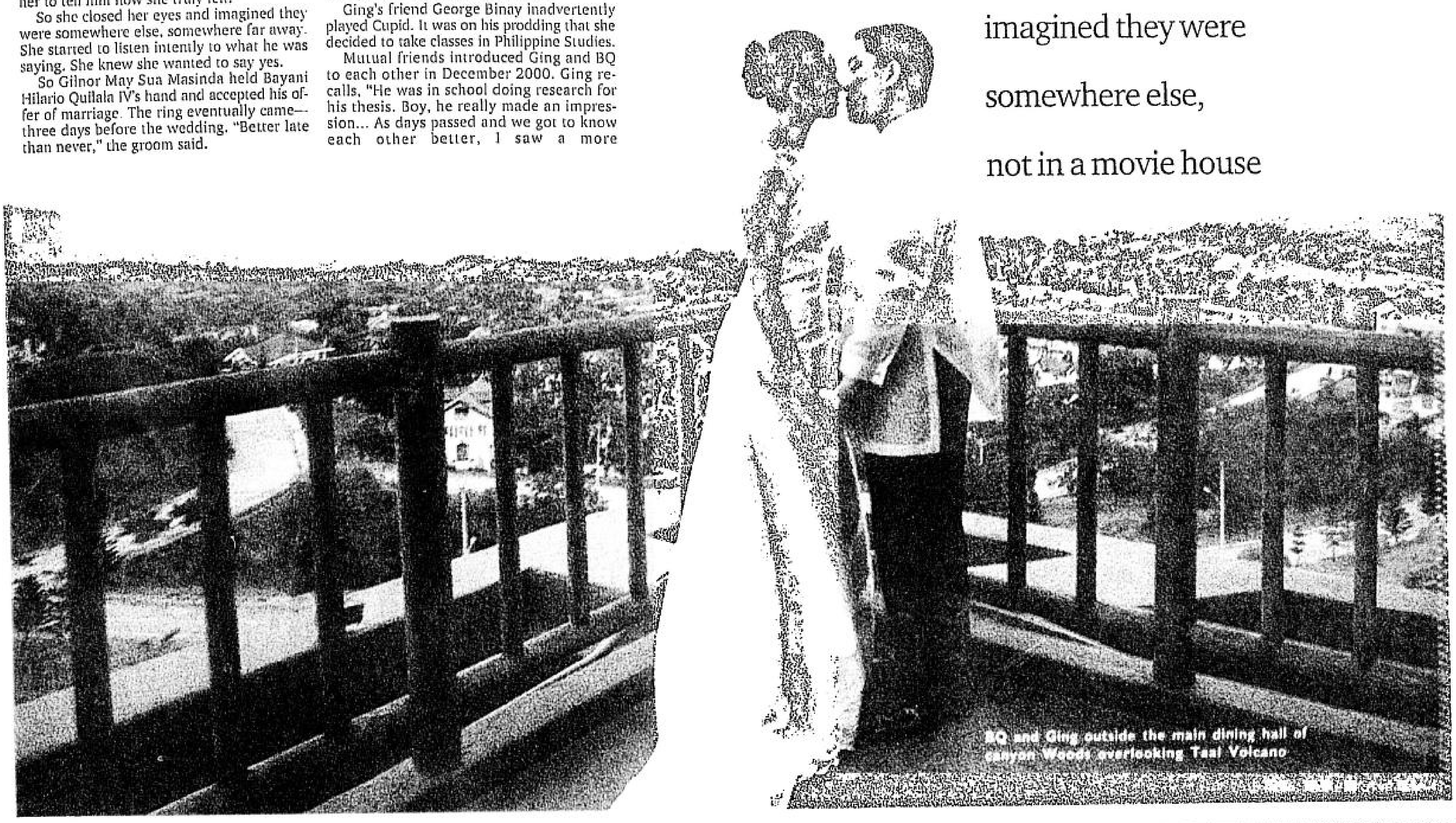
So Gilnor May Sua Masinda held Bayani Hilario Quilala IV's hand and accepted his offer of marriage. The ring eventually came—three days before the wedding. "Better late than never," the groom said.

Ging and BQ met at the University of the Philippines in Diliman, QC, while taking up their master's degrees—he in Philippine Studies, major in Philippine External Relations, she in International Studies.

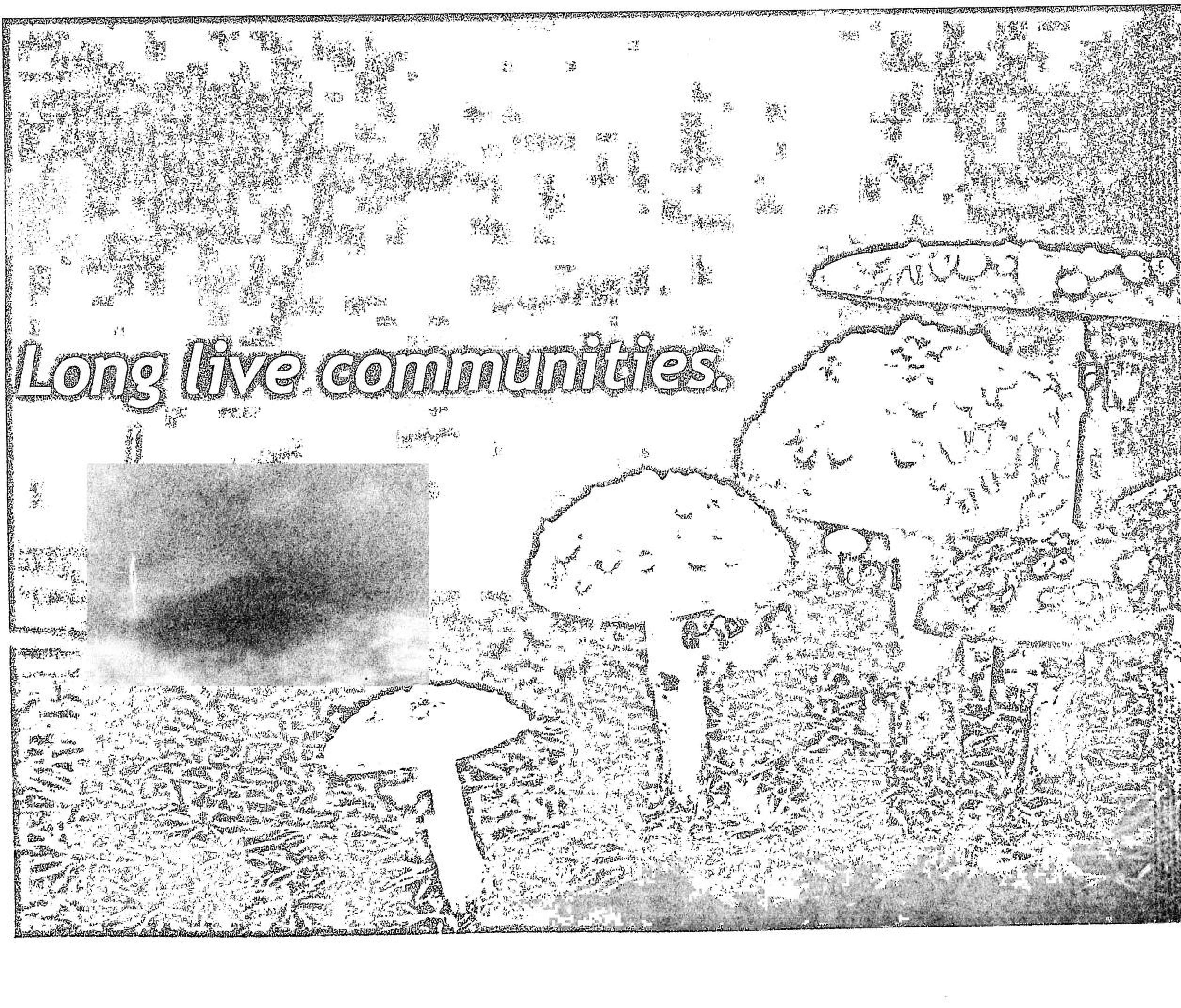
Ging's friend George Binay inadvertently played Cupid. It was on his prodding that she decided to take classes in Philippine Studies.

Mutual friends introduced Ging and BQ to each other in December 2000. Ging recalls, "He was in school doing research for his thesis. Boy, he really made an impression... As days passed and we got to know each other better, I saw a more

She closed her eyes and imagined they were somewhere else, not in a movie house



BQ and Ging outside the main dining hall of canyon Woods overlooking Taal Volcano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gentle and kindhearted person." Ging adds, "He really makes me laugh. I love his sense of humor."

Although she found him interesting, it was not love at first sight. She found it refreshing to see a guy who was into academics and also loved the outdoors. BQ turned out to be a sports enthusiast like her. Ging saw the opportunity to learn scuba diving when she found out he was a diver.

They officially became a couple on Dec. 27, 2000.

The couple reveals, "We can say we have been places: 100 ft underwater and 7,500 ft above sea level. We have had our share of joys and pains in our relationship... but against all odds, we stayed together. We fought for true love because we believed it would win in the end.

"We decided to hold the wedding outside Manila. It had to be in a place that will tell the world about who we are."

The wedding ceremony was held in Caleruega. The groom wore a *piña* barong by Malu Veloso, while the bride wore a simple yet elegant ivory-colored spaghetti-strapped long gown scattered with Swarovski crystals.

After the ceremony, reception followed at Canyon Woods Resort, which provided views of a beautiful sunset and Taal Volcano and Taal Lake in early evening. The stairs leading to the dining hall were lined with candles placed inside bags with the sides cut in dolphin shapes. Fishbowls with pairs of goldfish served as table centerpieces.

The Makati Skyline, official caterer of Canyon Woods, prepared a menu that included smoked porkloin with apple-horseradish sauce, potato with bacon, roasted chicken with honey-ginger, pan-fried fresh *tangigue* with lemon-butter sauce, beef roll with ham and mushroom, and various pastries and *bibingka*.

The Velvet Mood musical group and the choir Himig Sanghaya played contemporary ballads and OPM numbers.

Rey Mondez, the official photographer, took candid shots of the bride and groom, their families, the entourage and guests. A video presentation, a surprise gift from the couple's families, showed glimpses of the lives of BQ and Ging before and after they met.

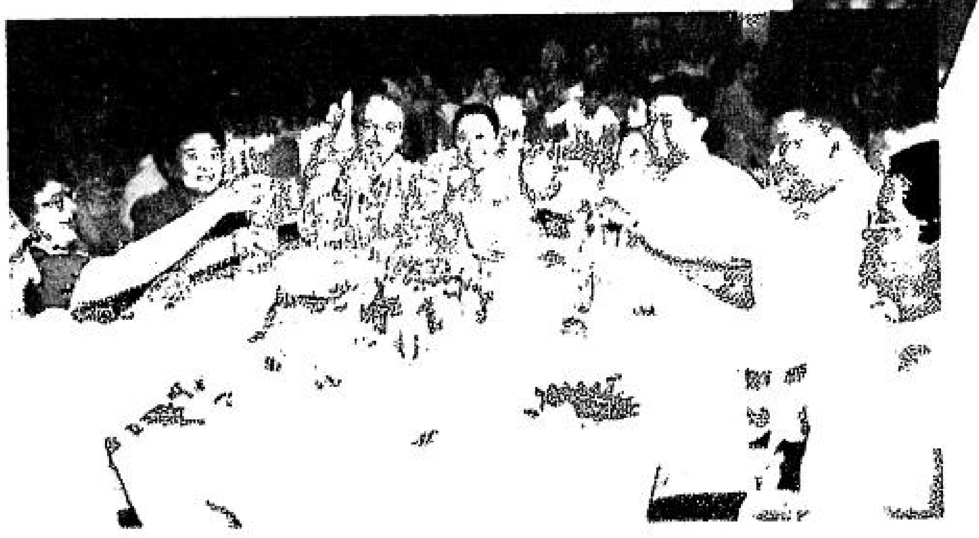
After the presentation, the bride asked all single wedding guests to line up in front of the stage for the tossing of the bouquet and the garter.

Ging and BQ departed a little from tradition. Roses were thrown initially and then the only woman who did not catch a flower was handed the bouquet. As for the men, the one who did not survive the limbo rock got the garter.

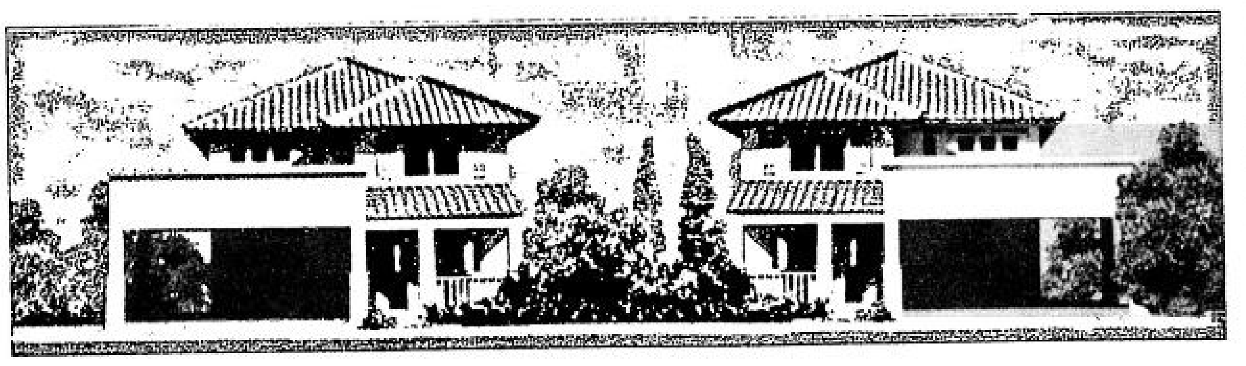
Bonsai plants, which symbolized the couple's great love for nature, were given to guests as wedding souvenirs.

WITH THE GROOM'S parents Bayani III and Pacita Quilala and only brother Bayani V

WITH THE BRIDE'S parents Gil and Nora Masinda and only sister Prescila Soledad


THE NEWLYWEDS with guests

Verdana Homes



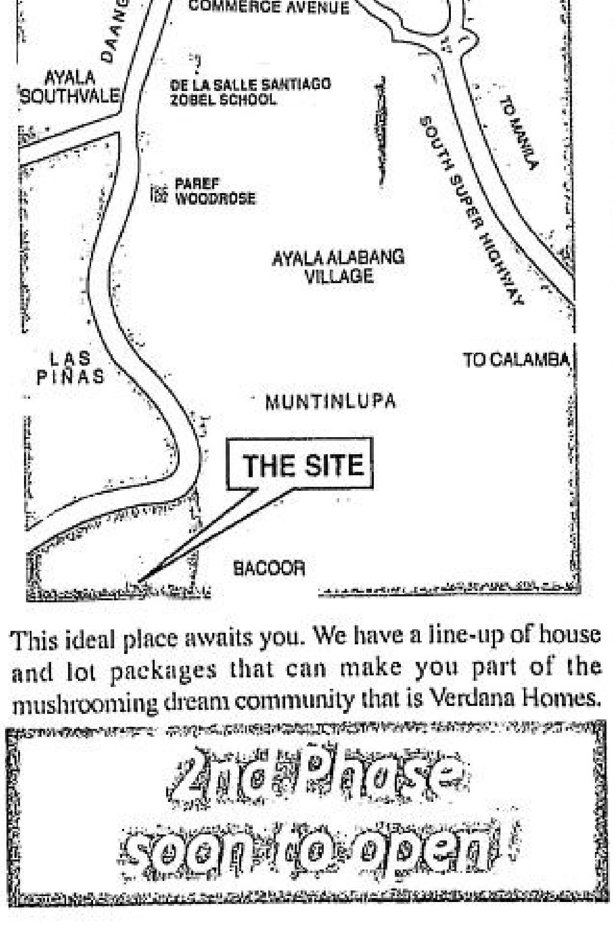
A FRESH COMMUNITY
A refreshing new community is growing and it's slowly changing the landscape along the border of Las Piñas and Bacoor, Cavite. Verdana Homes is the answer to the young achievers' need for a secure and friendly home.

Verdana provides a warm, cozy and serene environment ideal for raising a family. A showcase of California architecture, each home is built with a beautiful master bedroom. A kitchen and dining area sure to make mealtimes pleasant affairs. A family room specially built for intimate get-togethers. And a porch with a relaxing view of the greenery.

Step out of your home into a virtual vacation spot. A Grand Clubhouse offers myriad facilities and fun family activities. A kid's area complete with play equipment. Adult and kiddie pools. A green park teeming with birds. A meditation garden. A tree-lined jogging trail complete with exercise stations. Picnic and barbecue areas. An open play field and a basketball court.

And as if these were not enough, Verdana Homes is conveniently located a mere ten minutes drive from Alabang Town Center. Everything you may want or need-shopping havens, business centers, schools, hospitals, churches and recreational clubs-are practically within reach.

A FRESH APPROACH
What makes Verdana Homes distinct from ordinary neighborhoods is a sense of balance and harmony. Imagine roads laid out before you in an orderly fashion. Trees standing as if in a formation. Colors blending and contrasting in ways that please and surprise the eye. Every single detail is given our fullest attention so that Verdana Homes remain fresh, uncluttered, harmonious.



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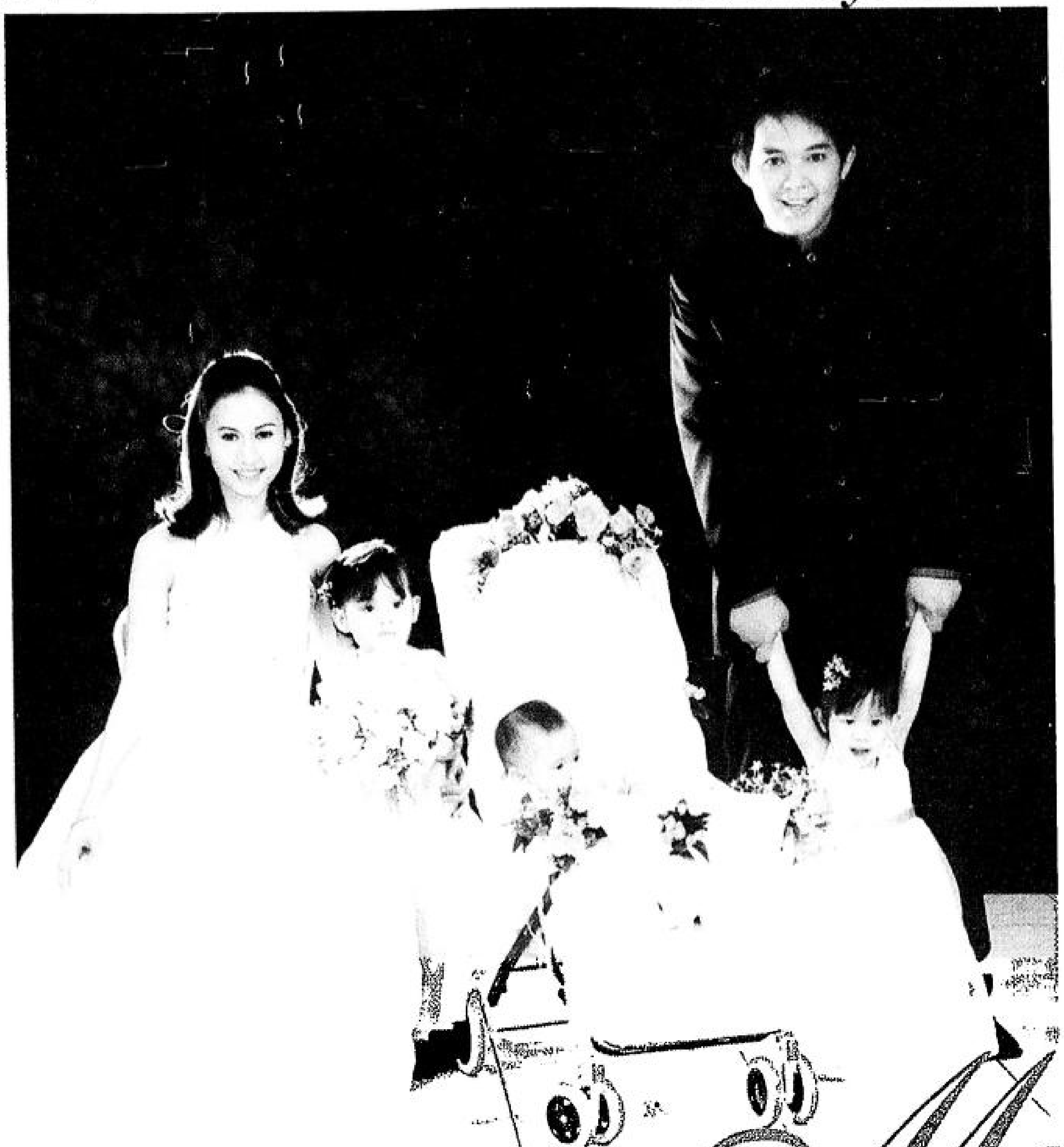


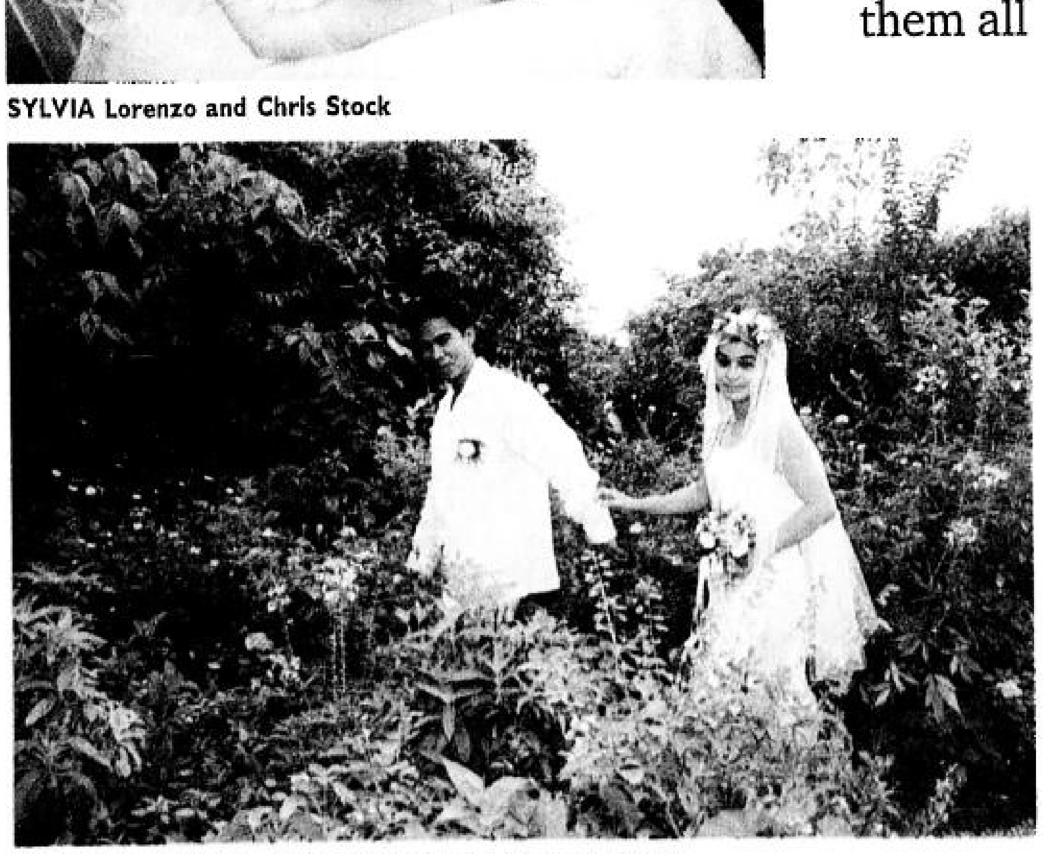
LOU Reine Ina Castro and daughters Angelica, Rafaela and Gianna, with Diego

KAY Buenaflor with father-in-law Joaquin Buenaflor in Boracay

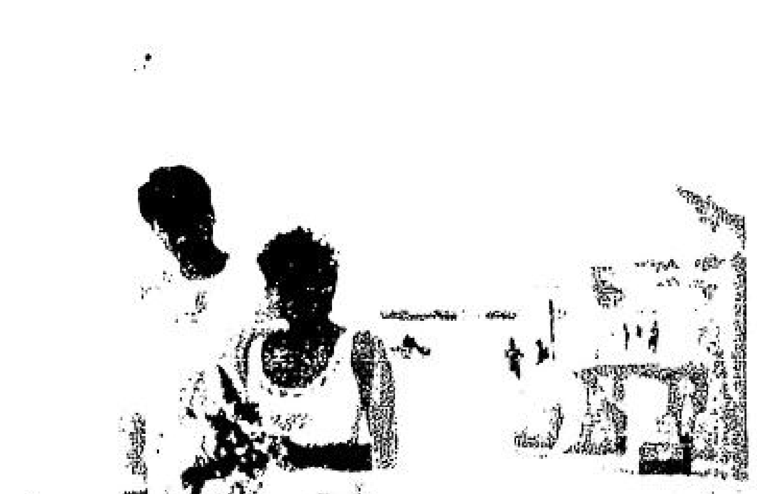
Memories and photographs

LOUIE de Lara and Vic Caridad (at right)

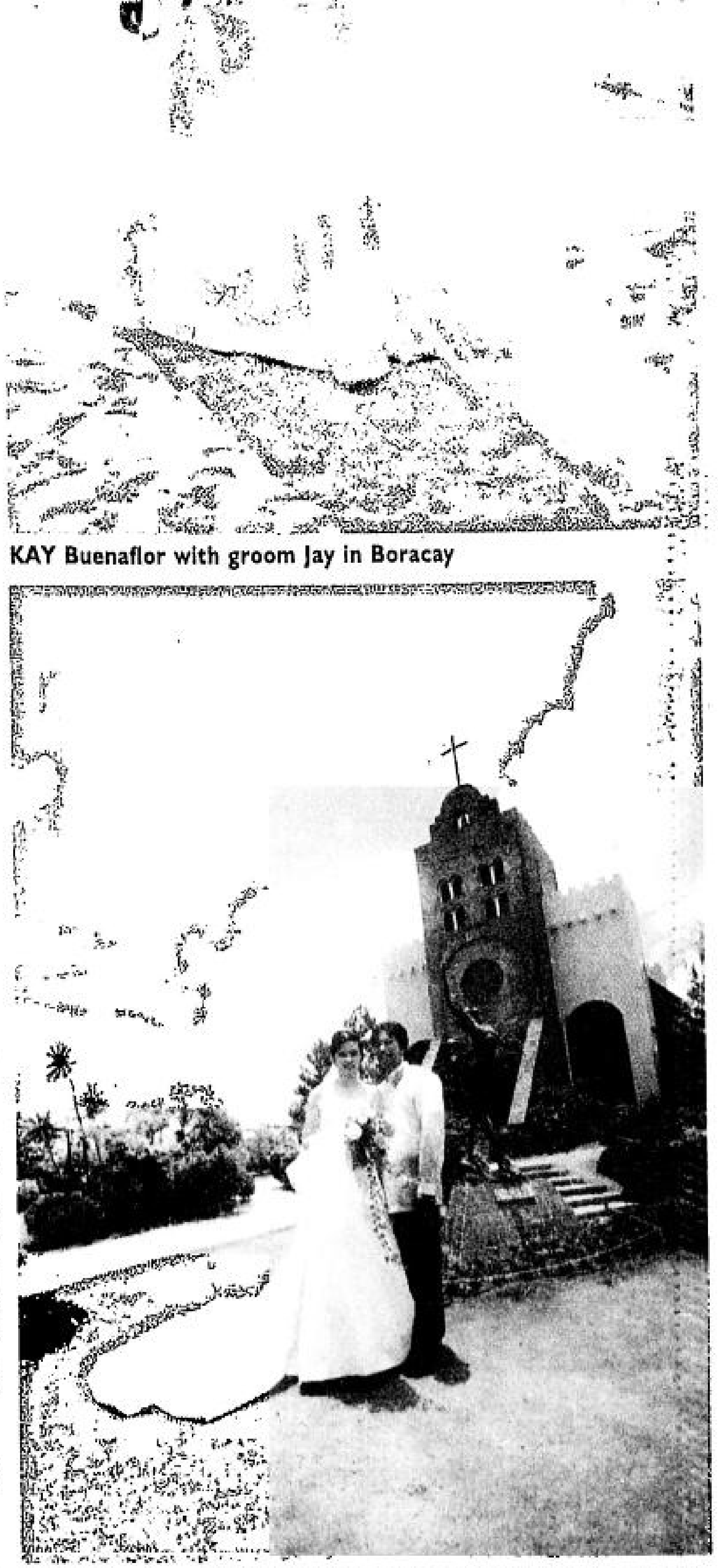
SYLVIA Lorenzo and Chris Stock



JANET Oquendo and Raymond Perfecto at Sonya's Garden



KAY Buenaflor with groom Jay in Boracay



DANG Banal and Mollet Binghay's wedding at Calaruega Church

From elegant portraits to fun, candid shots to romantic moments, Mandy Navasero captures them all

From page E1

they can trust and rely on and whose company they enjoy. "A photographer should be able to capture natural, spontaneous images. He must also have the creative eye to compose successful formal portraits," Navasero says.

A limited budget makes it even more imperative that couples choose their photographer wisely to get the best value for their money, she adds.

Highly personal

For almost three decades now, Navasero has been doing photographs of architectural interiors, scenery, industrial areas, weddings, school activities, food, fashion and, yes, even contract signings. She also does portraits for calendars and posters.

The pictures' impact comes from the subject matters themselves and her disregard of accepted standards of what makes an image or print good.

The veteran photographer says learning to see creatively is perhaps the hardest aspect of photography. Although electronic cameras have taken over so much of the technology of photography, the essence of the art—seeing, understanding, composing—is still the prerogative only of the photographer, she adds.

Navasero's love affair with photography started in the early 1970s while she was doing public relations work for Bank of America. She used to hang around in the dark rooms of her friends. "I was so amazed at how a picture was made," she recalls.

When John Chua, an advertising photographer, gave her a camera, she focused on portraiture. "I was all the more inspired when my friends asked me to photograph them and ordered several copies," she says.

She joined the Camera Club of the Philippines, becoming its first female member, and participated in the portraiture category of photo contests, where she often won the major prize. "My ambition then was to become a very good photographer."

After 13 years of working at the Bank of America, she packed her bags and went to the Brooks Institute of Photography and Fine Arts in Sta. Barbara, California, where she studied advertising and illustrative photography for 2½ years. As soon as she graduated, she came home and put up a studio.

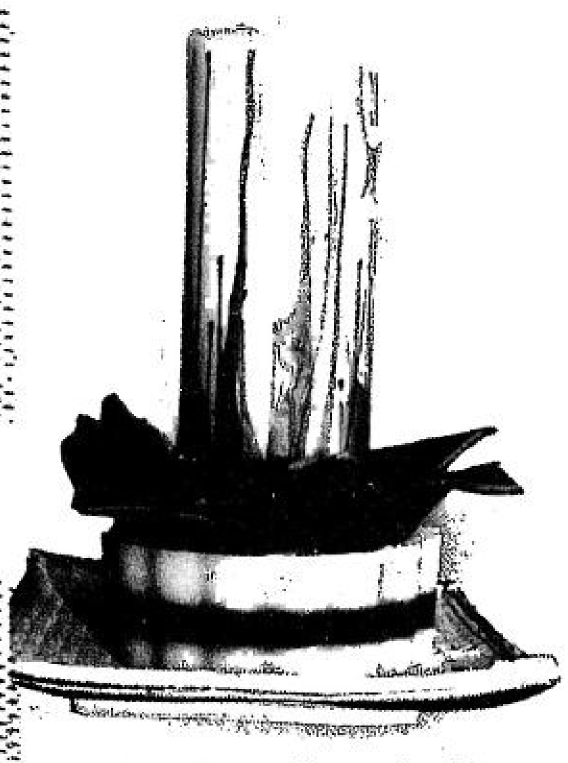
Navasero describes her work as "highly personal," especially her portraits. "There are moments that are nice to capture: a gesture, a motion, or simply a look of disapproval. I am constantly amazed by how often they appear."

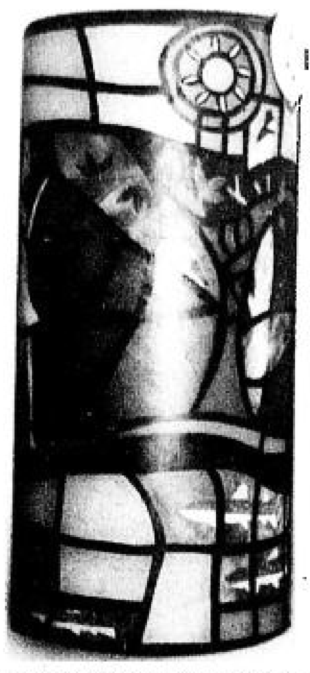
She denies, though, that she's expensive. "It's my work that looks expensive. I can work within a certain budget."

Wedding photography is both an art and a science, requiring the proper equipment and the right skills, plus the right attitude, if the photographer is to be effective and creative under pressure. Navasero has what it takes enabling her to capture the magical moments of weddings and create unforgettable images that will be treasured for years to come.

Mandy Navasero may be reached at 522-1905; 522-5185 or 89; 0916-4766613; e-mail mn_photocom.com.ph

E-mail the author at rburgos@inquirer.com.ph


A SIMPLE and elegant pillar candle with green leaves sprouting from its surrounding base, "Candle of Hope" by Effigy Enterprises, won third place.


"NATURE Collage," a vibrant interpretation of nature's images inspired by stained glass, won the silver. Doc's Candle made this entry rich with vibrant colors and patterns defined by smooth black lines.

Wonderfully wicked wicks

Text by Allison W. Lopez
Photos by Romy Homillada

A FLAMING desire to create and constantly innovate certainly burns brighter and longer than any candle. This passionate yearning fueled candle makers all over the country to join the First Philippine Candle Design Competition last month.

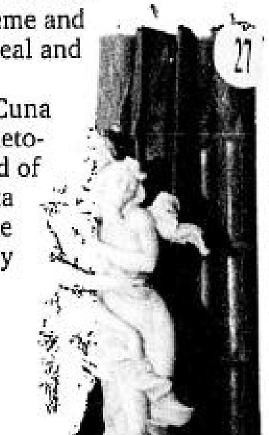
Organized by Philtrade at the Santuario de San Antonio Parish Center in Forbes Park, Makati, the contest showcased 45 inspired entries. Candles delighted the aesthete with their display of imagination in intense hues, fluid contours and unique patterns. Creativity and ingenuity smoldered, and the remarkable workmanship involved in designing candles was finally recognized.

In cooperation with the Product Development and Design Center of the Philippines (PDDC) of the Department of Trade and Industry, candle makers were challenged to introduce original designs with nature as the competition's theme.

Out of 45 entries, the judges trimmed down the list to 16 finalists, and proclaimed three major awards and two special awards. The entries were judged based on their originality, relevance to the theme and overall appearance, commercial appeal and safety and ecological consideration.

Designers Dem Bitantes, Rachy Cuna and PJ Arañador, style icon Tessa Prieto-Valdes, artist ER Tagle, Mel Meerand of Bergamo House of Fashion, and Vita Rivera of Viaje Pilipinas made up the impressive roster of judges led by Janet Guinto of the PDDC.

GRAND prize winner "Gift of Nature," by Sevilla Candle Factory, depicts the lush life nature brings with gleaming butterflies, sea shells and other images surrounding the flowing fountain; designed by Maynard Sta. Monica.



FINALIST "Malakas at Maganda" by Estellas Candle

MONKEY-EATING eagle "Pag-Asa" candle by Estellas Candle

Designing candles has undeniably become an art now that candles are sold more for their decorative quality than their utility. As a form of artistic expression, candles are versatile. They become even more appealing when combined with aromatic scents.

Tight competition actually encouraged candle makers to come up with quality designs and employ alternative methods and materials.

Philtrade's Igi Caluyo, exhibit organizer, said that it was about time that the craft of designing candles was recognized. He added that there were plans to make the competition an annual event.

Philtrade is a private company whose thrust is to support small and medium enterprises through exhibits.

The candle design competition was a highlight of the "Mother Earth Fair," an exhibit of products from small and medium enterprises.

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TAKING TIME OFF

By Dr. Eric Tayag

Mosquitoes: a child's misery, a mother's nightmare

Mosquitoes love kids as victims, that is. Most times, the only defense kids have against a deadly bite is a good scratch. For dengue-carrying mosquitoes, this makes kids easy targets.

What's more, children don't have the same physical tolerance as adults if and when they fall ill with dengue.

Once infected with dengue, the victim's sudden decline in mood and energy is just too alarming. And with a disease as dangerous as this, the child's misery becomes the mother's dreadful nightmare.

Danger signs

The danger starts with a person infected with the dengue virus. If a mosquito bites that person, the insect becomes a carrier that eventually infects its subsequent victims. The illness varies in severity, depending on any of the four types of dengue virus. If the victim is lucky, he or she may recover easily, suffering only from a slight fever. Unfortunately, most victims are children under 10 years old the tender years, as they say.

Fever and aches are just the beginning for most victims. The child's temperature rises from moderate to high and can last up to 7 days. Small, reddish skin rashes begin to appear on the body, arms, and legs. Because of these rashes, the illness is usually mistaken for measles or simple skin rashes that are common among children. As such, the condition may not cause that much alarm among parents on its onset.

Improper care resulting from the misconception of the illness allows the infection to become recurrent. The illness then develops into the more severe form known as dengue hemorrhagic fever, or H-Fever. During H-fever, the fever subsides, making parents think that their child has fully recovered. Little do they know that their child is yet to experience the worst. Any mother will cringe in emotional pain as she begins to see her child suffer from signs of the fatal H-fever. The child suffers from dehydration, making the child weak and listless. Hungry or not, the child no longer cares to eat for lack of appetite. Bleeding occurs from the nose, gums, and stomach. The worst part is when the child goes into symptoms of shock: breathing difficulty, weakening pulse, bluish nails, prolonged sleeping, and difficulty in waking up. A tourniquet test, a method of applying tight pressure on skin, will show tiny skin hemorrhages on the arms that look like mosquito bites. Succeeding occurrences are unpredictable. At this point, hospital care and treatment is the best solution for the ailing child.

Hope for the children

Classical dengue fever need not reach alarming proportions. Not all dengue victims are sure to suffer severely. Ordinarily, paracetamol can help relieve fever. Oral rehydration should provide the supply of fluids needed by the body. Mothers may get anxious about repeated laboratory tests because these involve repeated blood collection. Intravenous fluid replacements plus proper nursing care and monitoring, the child will have more chance to recover faster and get off the misery sooner than expected.

Prevention, of course, is still the essential first step. Mosquito breeding sites that hold clear, still water should be constantly replaced, covered or destroyed. For more peace of mind, an effective mosquito repellent lotion should drive dengue carrying mosquitoes off your precious child's tender skin.

Taking Time OFF is a bi-monthly public information drive against dengue by SCJohnson's OFF! Mosquito Repellent Lotion. Dr. Eric Tayag is a dengue specialist, who also works for the Department of Health. For inquiries and comments, you may email him at e_tayag@doh.gov.ph. On the next issue, Dr. Tayag will feature the dangers of dengue as well as preventive measures against dengue epidemic.

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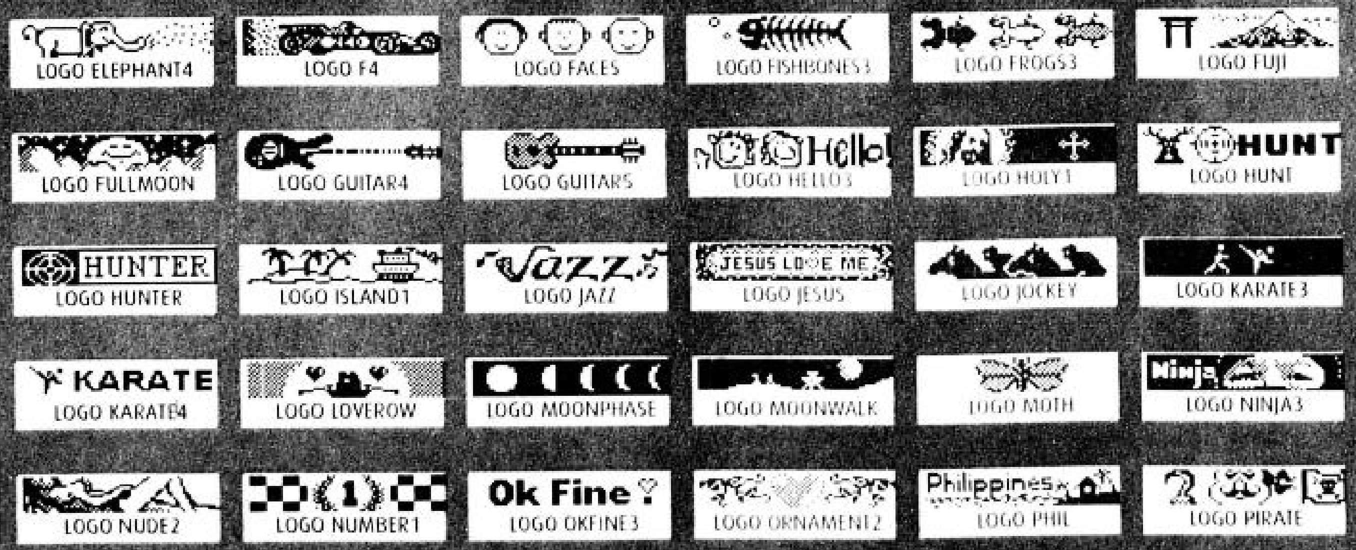
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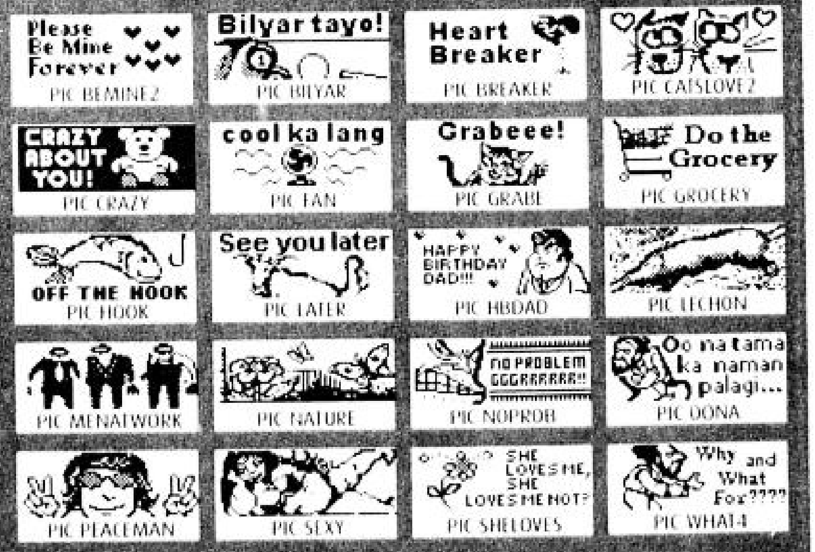
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PIC GRABE
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PIC HOOK
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PIC LATER
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PIC NOPROB
Oo na tama ka naman palagi...
PIC OONA
PIC PEACEMAN
PIC SEXY
SHE LOVES ME, SHE LOVES ME NOT?
PIC SHELOVES
Why and What For????
PIC WHAT4

RINGTONES

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The Corrs
TONE DREAMS

Insatiable
Darren Hayes
TONE INSATIABLE

Jumpin' Jumpin'
Destiny's Child
TONE JUMPIN

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Crosby, Stills, Nash, & Young
TONE OURHOUSE

I'm A Slave For You
Britney Spears
TONE SLAVE4U

Say My Name
Destiny's Child
TONE SAYMYNAME

Fallin'
Alicia Keys
TONE FALLIN

May It Be (Lord of the Rings)
Enya
TONE MAYITB

Row Row Row Your Boat
TONE ROWROW

I'm Like A Bird
Nelly Furtado
TONE IMLIKEA

Superman
Five for Fighting
TONE SUPERMAN5

So Young
The Corrs
TONE SOYOUNG

One In A Million
Aaliyah
TONE ONEINAMIL

The Real Slim Shady
Eminem
TONE SLIMSHADY

Play
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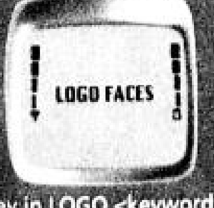

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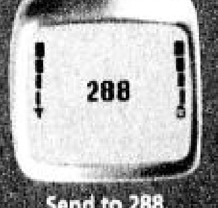

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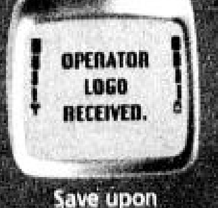
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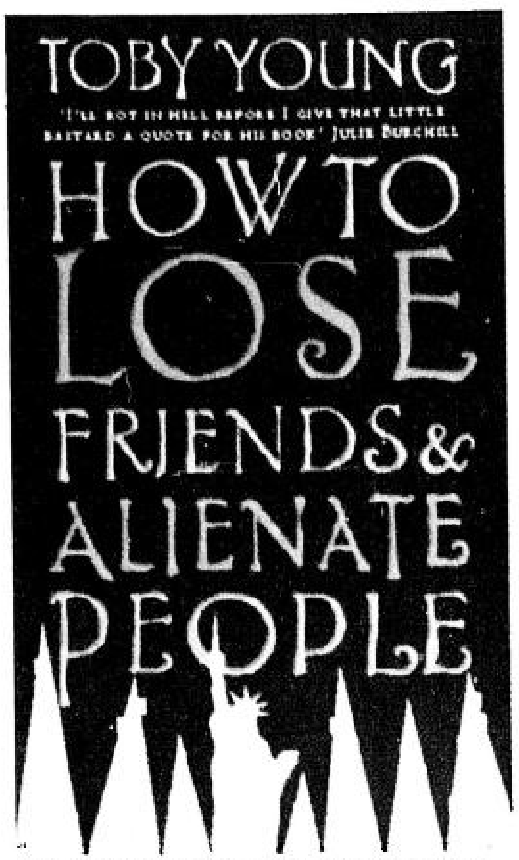
TOBY YOUNG
'I'LL ROT IN HELL BEFORE I GIVE THAT LITTLE BASTARD A QUOTE FOR HIS BOOK' JULIE BURCHILL
HOW TO LOSE FRIENDS & ALIENATE PEOPLE

MUST-READ. "How to Lose Friends and Alienate People" by Toby Young

Vanity Fair insider rakes high fashion and Hollywood muck

T'NT TRENDS & TRENDINGS

Anton San Diego

MUST-READ book: "How to Lose Friends and Alienate People." Isn't this a great name for a book? The author is **Toby Young**, a former columnist and co-editor of Vanity Fair. The book talks about his rise as a magazine editor and his descent to the lower depths as a sex toy—all in a span of two years.

The book portrays the cutthroat life of working in New York's magazine trade and the wages of living the high media life. It shows how your importance is not determined by how well you write but how near you are to the celebrities during the annual Vanity Fair Oscars party. Word's out that the book might become a major picture soon.

"I was raped by a prince and now I have a new career." She accused **Prince Albert** of Monaco and other men, including those in the model agencies where she worked, of rape. But supermodel **Karen Mulder** said she has forgiven them and has turned a new leaf.

The 32-year-old former model recently launched her musical career, and she has scored a Top 10 hit in Paris with her cover version of the **Gloria Gaynor** classic "I Am What I Am."

Must-have toilet paper. TNT prides itself in catering to every part of a person's body, even the sensitive and never-seen parts. So this week's must-have is Charmin, the softest and best toilet paper available at Price

VANITY FAIR/ p.F2

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Vanity Fair . . .

SUPERMODEL Karen Mulder has a new career as a singer.

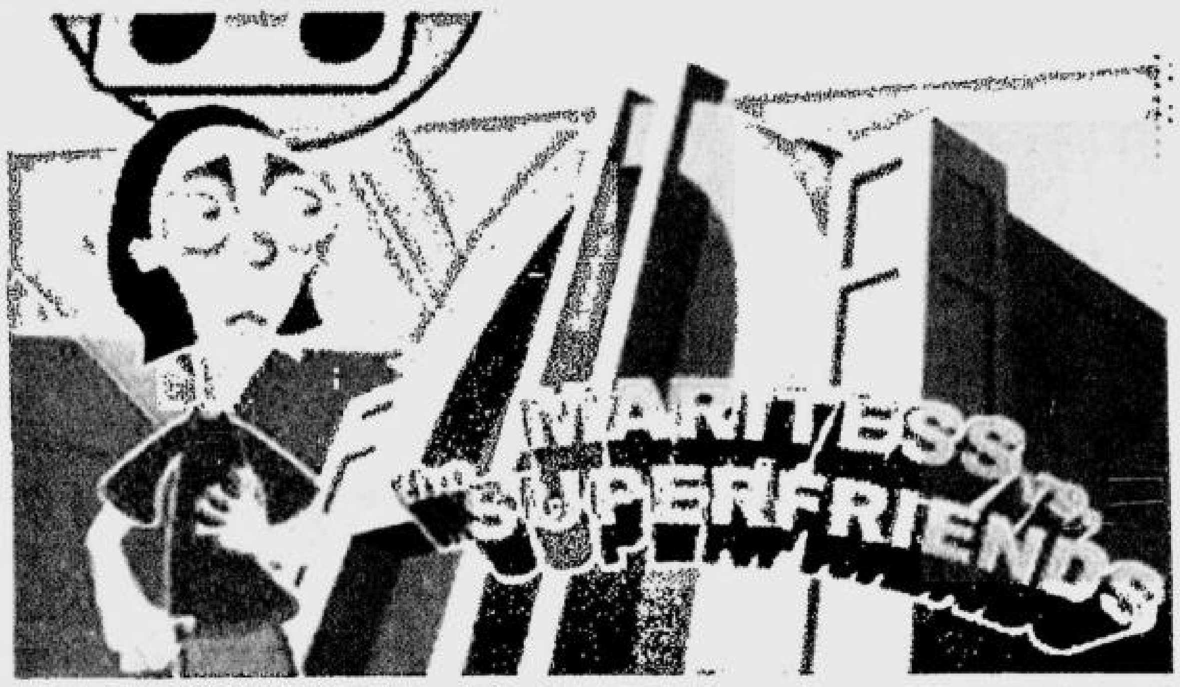
From page F1

Smart. Although this toilet paper is more of a status symbol than anything else, it is unbelievably soft. Just imagine it in your guest bathroom: You have the monogrammed tea towels and now your own personalized toilet paper.

I can't get through July without... Praying for justice for **Nida Blanca**... Catching **Josh Groban** this week at **Larry King**'s show... Checking out the new furniture and lifestyle stores at Greenbelt 3, especially Firma and Pineapple... Watching **Diana Krall**'s show at the Edsa Shangri-La... Going to the Podium in Ortigas, a really nice mall. The coolest and hippest-looking place is called Elbow Room, which is a bar, restaurant and pool hall... Getting a peppermint hair treatment at Emphasis salon... Skipping "Men in Black II," which is probably the worst film I have seen this year. It's strictly for kids, who should get a better treat with Disney's "Lilo and Stitch"... Suggesting that everyone watch the French hit movie "Amelie"... Hanging out at what's turning out to be *the* place to be seen in, Nuvo... Switching from square-toed to pointed shoes... Enroling at the Makati Shangri-La gym, which is open 24 hours... Checking out the fashion looks of **Madonna** in her new movie "Swept Away," where she plays a rich heiress who gets stranded on an island (the fashion ranges from Dolce e Gabbana to Gucci, Missoni, Fendi and Versace).

"Maritess and the Superfriends." E-mail, like the cell phone, is one of the things I can't live without. In one day alone, I get at least 100 messages, including pornography (see **Britney** naked!) and invitations to use "herbal Viagra," "Add inches to your manhood," and "Get rich."

Recently I got one of the best e-mails from a friend. It's an animation done by two Fil-Ams, **Rex Navarette** and **Dino Ignacio**. "Maritess and the Superfriends" is about a household helper, Maritess, who goes to work for the Superfriends (that's Superman, Batman, Wonder Woman, Aquaman, etc.).



"MARITESS and the Superfriends" on www.fractow.com

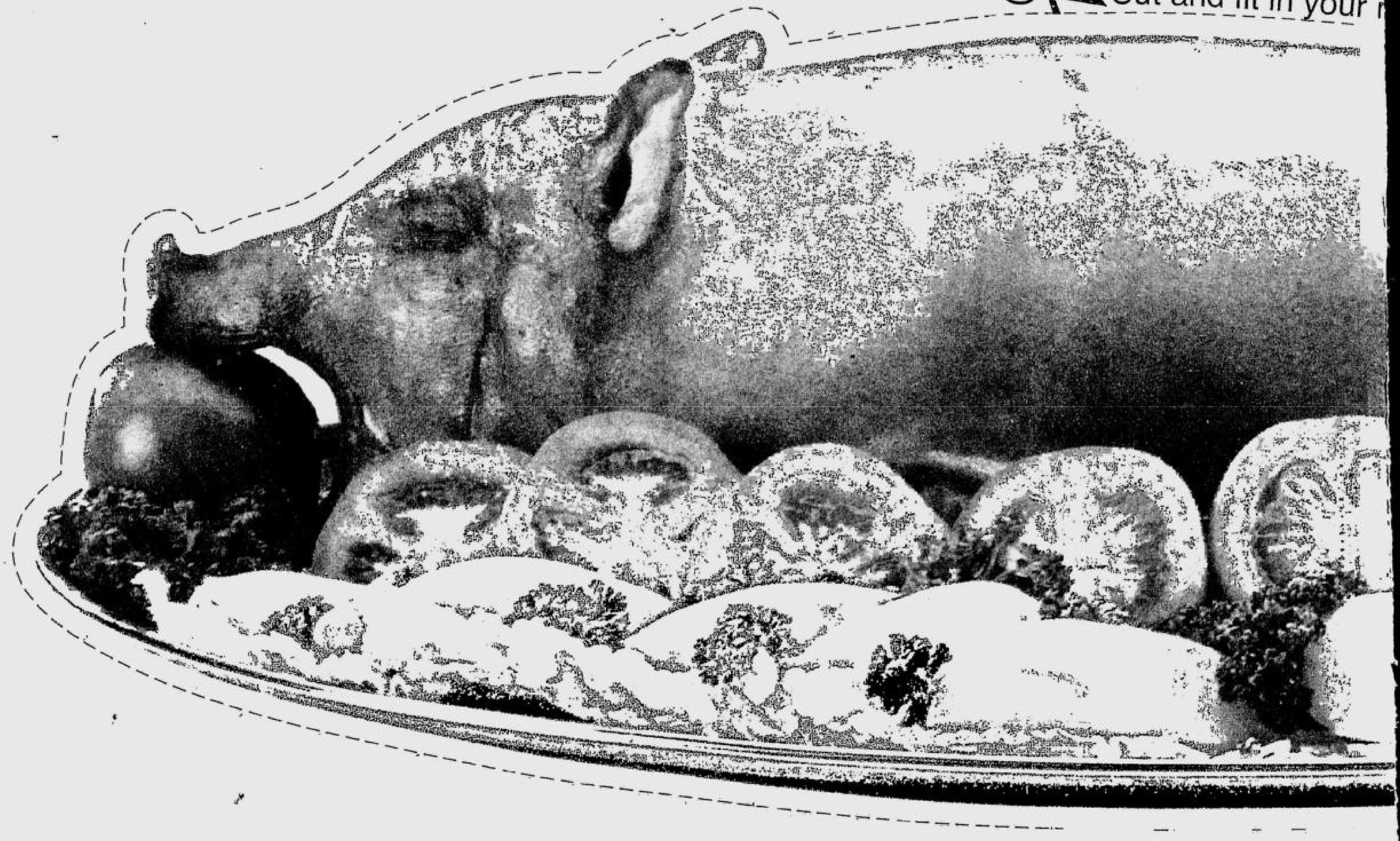
I particularly liked the scene when she confronts Aquaman. As everyone knows, his power is activated only when he takes to the water. When a giant robot attacks this city, he is left behind at the Justice League office. Maritess tells him, "Wow, Aquaman can't go out again," which makes Aquaman angry.

The animated cartoon is a hilarious take on a Filipino maid's life that is hardly super even if she works for superheroes. It has tinges of truth smoldering in between the superheroes' escapades (her visa running out, the pressure to send money home, etc.). You've got to check this one at www.fractow.com.

Let's get political. Last Thursday, I caught "Debate" on Channel 7 with **Winnie Monsod** and **Oscar Orbos**. It was thought-provoking.

The show asked, "Should we still trust the Senate?" Tackling the issue were Senators **Edgardo Angara**, **Panfilo Lacson** and **Loren Legarda Leviste**. Also on hand to discuss the matter were GMA 7's

Cut and fit in your r



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I would just like to express how disappointed am with the senators, especially those who got ur respect during the impeachment trial, but ho now seem to have caused us to doubt hether or not they really deserve the respect we corded them then.

As the Senate opens tomorrow, July 22, will e see a change? I really am not holding my reath. As Orbos said, "It's time that we have atesmen, people who have a passion for the ountry's affairs and not their own."

E-mail the author at asd_world@hotmail.com

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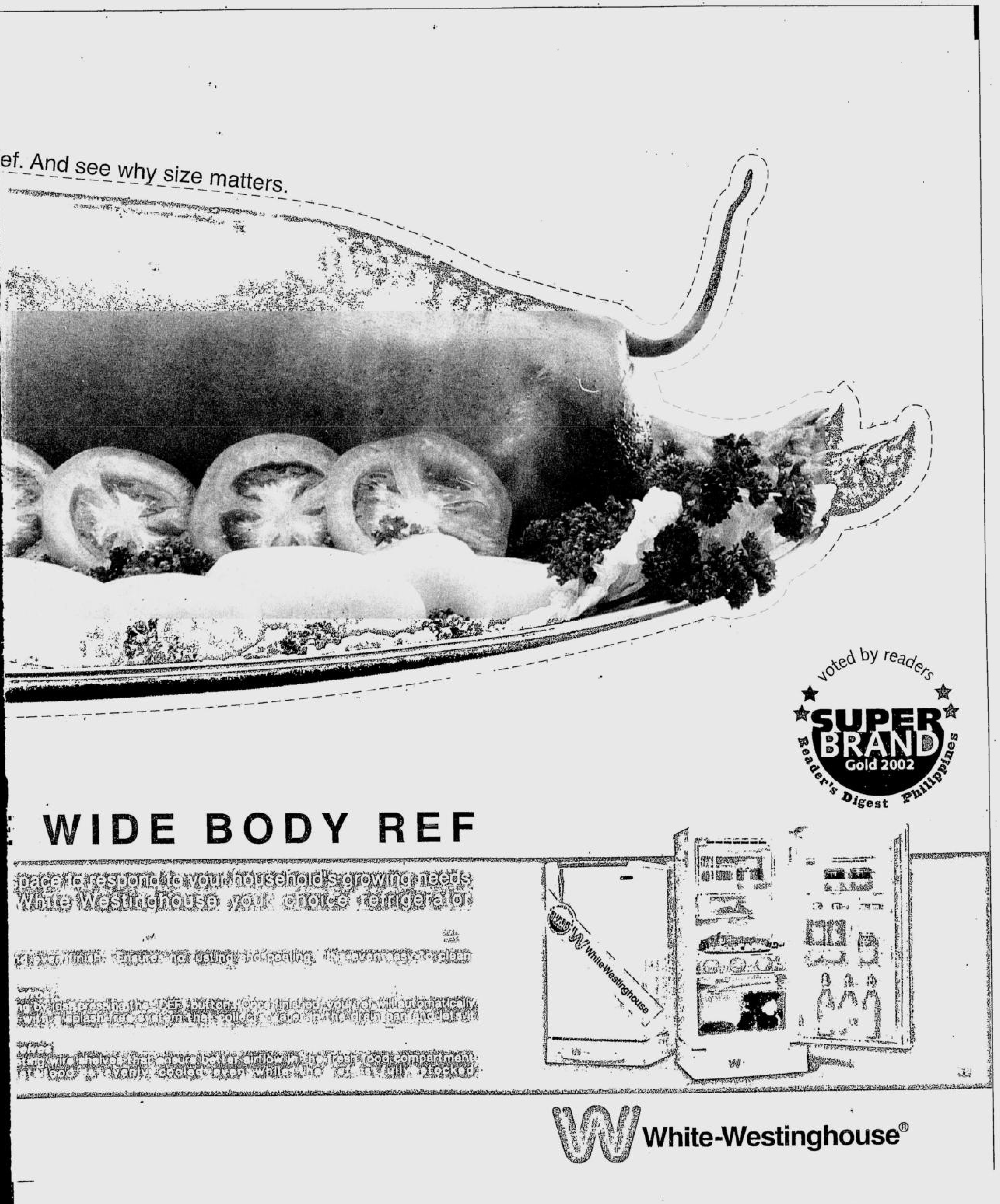

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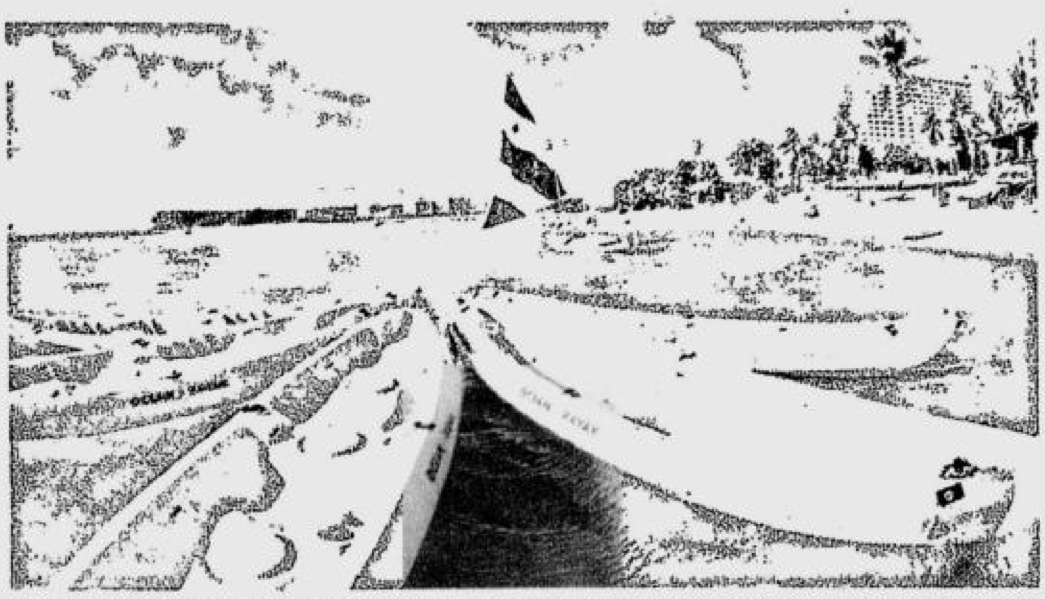
For questions, comments, or concerns, you may call the SMART Hotline at 888-1111, send a text message to 888 (P1.00 per message sent in excess of the FREE TEXT allocation), e-mail us at customercare@smart.com.ph, or visit the SMART Wireless Center nearest you.

For feedback, text us at (0918)917-5026 or email us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

Sunday LIFESTYLE



COLORFUL kayaks and a wind-surf board await patrons at the Guam Marriott Resort's private beach. Blessed with clear, shallow waters, year-round sunshine and first-class facilities, Tumon Bay has been dubbed "playground of the Pacific."

Guam feels like home

This US territory has so much in common with the Philippines but its biggest come-on is that it's great for PX shopping

PLACID sunset scene from a Tumon Bay hotel pool. By nightfall, however, Guam comes alive with entertainment, ranging from high-kicking Las Vegas-style shows at the Sand Castle to more risqué fare at the G-Spot Club.

Text by Alex Y. Vergara
Photos by Bobby Toriano

ANY fun-loving Filipino is bound to feel right at home in sunny Guam, a tropical paradise like the Philippines where marine attractions are perhaps as diverse as those found in our islands. Beyond topography, the similarities between the two places also include religion, culture and history.

Barely three hours away by plane from Manila, Guam has been a magnet for Filipinos for decades. In fact, Filipinos now rank as the biggest ethnic group in Guam, next to the native Chamorros. Close to 25 percent of the island's population of 155,000 is reportedly Filipinos. Talk about colonization without firing a single shot!

Swarming with Pinoys

On a recent trip to Guam, we kept bumping into Filipino-Americans from the time we arrived at the Guam International Airport to the time we checked into the Marriott Hotel on posh Tumon Bay strip.

It was like we've never left the Philippines at all. After all, Filipinos make up almost 70 percent of the hotel staff.

"I'm the most fortunate GM on this island," said Mak Djalali, general manager of Marriott Guam. "We have a great and dedicated workforce."

Earlier at the Guam airport, I even received unsolicited advice from an immigration officer, who turned out to be Filipino-American. Having visited the US several times, I didn't pay much attention to the kind of entry visa I was carrying. I stated the real purpose of my visit, which was to cover Philippine Airlines' return flight to Guam.

Since I was there to cover a news event, a younger officer asked me for an "I" (or journalist's) visa. "Won't my tourist visa do," I asked, "since I'm here basically to tour and not to write about the place?"

No amount of sweet talk on my part could change his mind. Thoughts of

GUAM/ p.G2

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PAL chair Lucio Tan presents a PAL aircraft model to Guam governor Carl Gutierrez during the formal launch of the flag carrier's service to Guam. Airline president Avelino Zapanta looks on.

THE PAL media group gathers at the Apolinario Mabini marker on Asan beach. The American colonial government exiled the Filipino revolutionary in Guam in 1901-03.

Guam feels like home

From page G1

spending long hours in detention and paying a huge fine crossed my mind as he led me to a holding room.

My first trip to Guam would have turned into a nightmare if not for the Filipino-American officer's timely intervention.

"I'll allow you in this time," he said in Filipino as he stamped my passport. "You should know better not to come to Guam with the wrong visa next time."

I acknowledged my mistake and thanked him. It wasn't the first time this happened, he said.

A famous (or is it infamous?) Filipino broadcaster was caught in the same bind several months ago. Instead of being apologetic about it, however, she displayed her trademark arrogance, even invoking President Macapagal-Arroyo's name in an attempt to wriggle her way out of the mess.

"We reminded her that this isn't the Philippines and we're not employees of the Philippine government," said the gray-haired Fil-Am. "If only to teach her a lesson, we detained her and her cameraman for several hours."

Allies

Of course, Guam residents, whether they're part-Filipino or not, aren't totally clueless about who President Macapagal-Arroyo is. Not a few of them, in fact, regularly visit the Philippines for pilgrimage, medical and educational purposes.

The government of Guam has accredited St. Luke's Medical Center, Makati Medical Center and the newly opened Asian Hospital in the Philippines to attend to the medical needs of its constituents.

With so much going on between the two countries, it was only a matter of time before PAL resumed regular flights to Guam.

PAL's chair and CEO Lucio Tan and president Avelino Zapanta graced the first resumed flight. Entertainer Gary Valenciano performed to a packed crowd at the Micronesia Mall to mark PAL's reentry.

Apart from the economic prospects it offers, PAL's return to Guam is sure to bolster historical and cultural ties between the two destinations that began in 1946.

PAL, then a fledgling airline, flew several US servicemen to California, stopping by four islands, including Guam, as the Douglas DC-4 crossed the Pacific. The 41-hour flight earned for PAL the distinction of being the first Asian airline to cross the vast ocean.

It wasn't until 1991 when PAL began offering regular flights to Guam and the neighboring island of Saipan. Operational difficulties, however, forced PAL to suspend its operations sometime in 1993.

"The Guam market has become much more diverse and competitive since we left," said Zapanta. "PAL's return will benefit travelers who now have a choice."

This time around, PAL has fielded an Airbus A320-200 to ferry passengers thrice a week from Manila to Guam and vice versa. Prior to PAL's reentry, Continental had the profitable route all to itself, offering 12 flights a week.

"Its (PAL) entry to Guam would definitely boost our efforts to promote tourism," said David Sablan, board member of Guam's Visitors Bureau. "Aside from increasing the number of airline seats, Filipinos now have more reasons to travel to Guam."

A two-way ticket via PAL costs $600. To entice more Filipinos to visit the territory, several Manila-based travel agents are reportedly offering a three-day, two-night package to Guam for $399.

Tourism is still the territory's leading industry, with the Japanese accounting for almost 80 percent of tourist arrivals.

Although Filipinos have yet to figure prominently as guests, Guam's tourism officials are hopeful their tribe will increase owing to the Philippines' proximity to Guam.

Attractions

Close to 10,000 Filipinos visited Guam last year to see friends and family. Instead of flying to the mainland, a growing number of Filipino professionals, such as accountants, physical therapists and nurses, now fly to Guam to take the US regulatory exams.

But what awaits Filipinos in Guam aside from endless beaches, world-class diving spots, marine parks and posh seaside hotels? Shopping opportunities, of course.

"Filipinos are normally interested in shopping," said Kerwin Go, Manila representative of GVB. "They also cite Guam as safe and accessible. It takes almost the same time to get to Guam as it is to get to Boracay, if you factor in the land trip."

Aside from several stores selling signature brands, there are four main shopping options in Guam: Guam Premium Outlets, DFS Galleria, K-Mart and Micronesia Mall. The last houses a Macy's Department Store and—what joy!—a Jollibee.

Although not as extensive as those found in the mainland, Guam's lone outlet center offers a diverse mix of popular brands and discount staples. K-Mart is open 24 hours and within walking distance from a number of hotels on Tumon Bay.

As far as entertainment options go, the Sand Castle features Las Vegas-type entertainment, complete with showgirls, acrobats, caged tigers and illusionists.

Filipino-American Fidés Gorman, the Marriott's sales and PR manager, thinks the pace in the island can be an attraction.

"Guam is ideal for rest and recreation," she said. "The atmosphere is so relaxing. There's virtually no traffic and pollution. Just sit on the beach for hours and imbibe the fresh surroundings."

Guam is the perfect place to get away from it all, but not so far away from it all that you don't get to bump into a *paisano*.

Philippine Airlines now flies thrice a week to Guam

E-mail the author at avergara@ inquirer.com.ph

CARMEN Tan, wife of Lucio Tan, and daughter Gigi join Gary Valenciano and wife Angeli backstage after his concert.

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To join, the subscriber keys-in JOIN LOGOLOCO <name> <complete address> <birthdate (mmddyy)> <gender> and send to 288 prior to downloading. Once a subscriber registers, he/she can download as many logos he/she wishes, as every successful download is considered one raffle entry. Example: JOIN LOGOLOCO Gigi Ocampo 108 Herrera St.,Makati City 122175 female and send to 288.

There can only be one registered name per cellular phone number. In the event that another person registers using the same number, he/she automatically overwrites the previous name and the current/latest name will be recognized. However, one person can register several mobile numbers at one time.

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For the daily draws, the winning entry will be based on the pre-selected number downloader list submitted to DTI prior to the start of the promotion. From the downloader list, the DTI representative gets the entry that corresponds to the given list and shall be declared the winner. For the weekly and monthly draws, the computer randomly selects the winning entries.

All raffle draws will take place at the Sonera zed Office, 27th Floor, Tower II, Enterprise Building, Paseo de Roxas, Makati City at 11:00 a.m.

The draw schedule and the promotion period covered are as follows: (Please note that daily draws that fall on a Saturday and Sunday shall be drawn on the succeeding Monday.)

	Promo Period	Draw Date
Daily Draws	July 20 - Sept 13, 2002	(the following day)
Week 1	July 20 - 26, 2002	July 29, 2002
Week 2	July 27 - Aug 2, 2002	August 5, 2002
Week 3	Aug 3 - 9, 2002	August 12, 2002
Week 4	Aug 10 - 16, 2002	August 19, 2002
1st Monthly Draw	July 20 - August 16, 2002	August 19, 2002
Week 5	Aug 17 - 23, 2002	August 26, 2002
Week 6	Aug 24 - 30, 2002	September 2, 2002
Week 7	Aug 31 - Sept 6, 2002	September 9, 2002
Week 8	Sept 7 - 13, 2002	September 16, 2002
2nd Monthly Draw	Aug 17 - Sept 13, 2002	September 16, 2002

Lulu's in-transit fashion

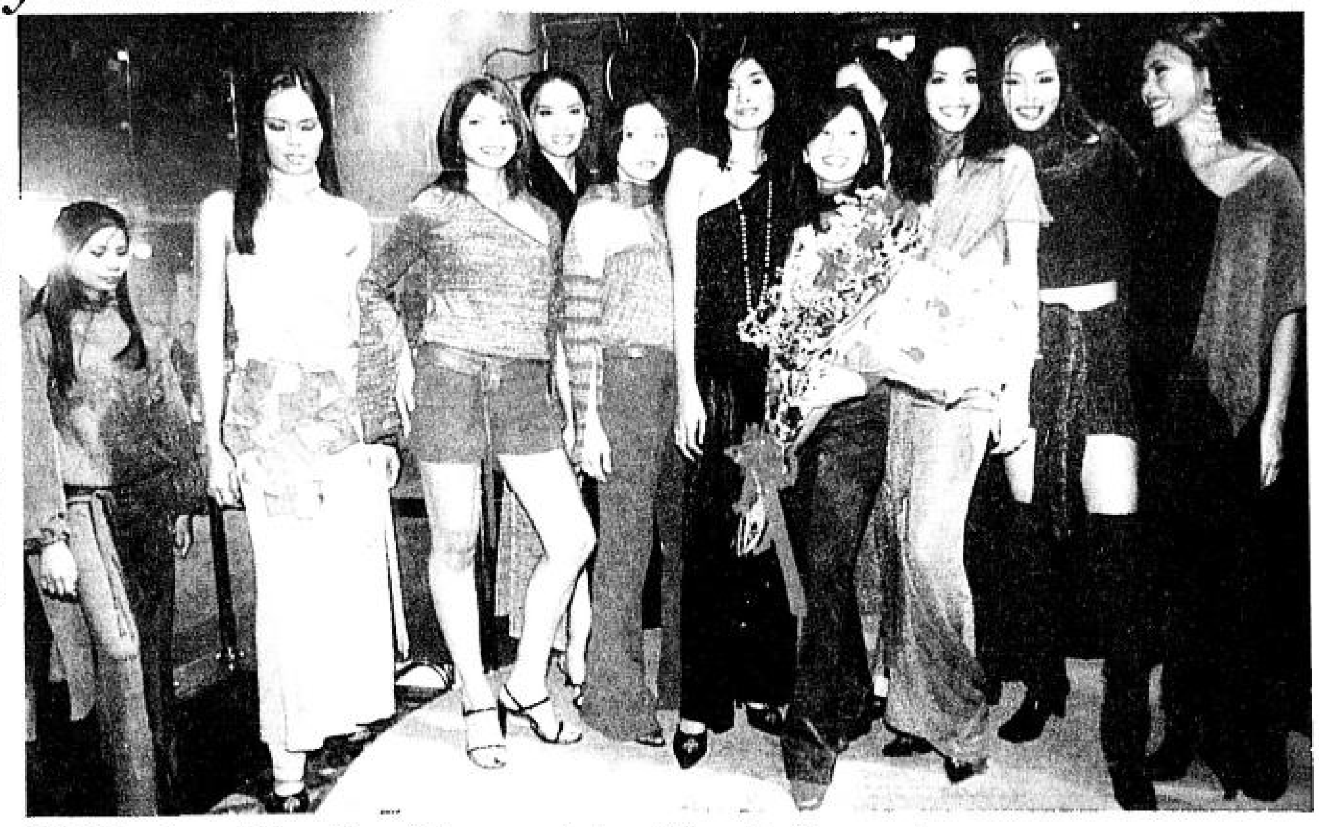
A WOMAN in transit was the motif of Lulu Tan-Gan's Ethno Metro collection unveiled recently by Mandarin Oriental Manila at the hotel's Clipper Lounge and Captain's Bar.

Tan-Gan urbanized the ethnic touches by cool silhouettes. Current trends were incorporated into her ingenious construction and draping.

Texture gave Tan-Gan's versatile knits extra surface interest. For colors, Lulu went for graphic black and white in her casuals, earth tones and marine blues in her career wear, colors of spices and minerals in her after-6 and travel wear.

Tan-Gan called her latest innovation the "TG convertible wrap," a multipurpose top whose sleeves could be converted to a scarf, turban or shawl.

TINGTING Cojuangco. Tina Ocampo, Inno Sotto and Josie Natori

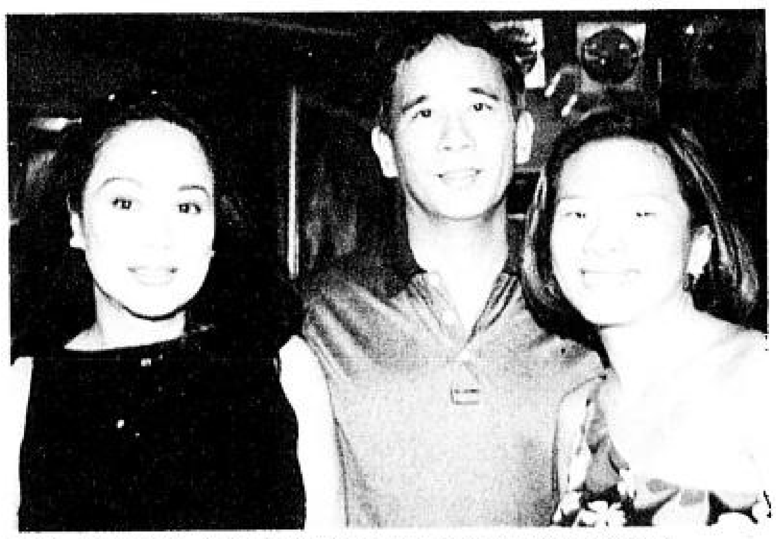

LULU Tan Gan with her Ethno Metro Collection models

Friends in fashion came to show moral support. Josie Natori flew in from Paris and Rafe Totengco, with model sister Maricar, who came from New York. Manila's top couturiers were present: Inno Sotto, Pitoy Moreno, Ben Farrales, and Joe Salazar. Fe Agoncillo Reyes, Diana Santos and Jeanne Goulbourn came. There were also the beautiful couples: Duane and Mandy Santos, Frank Cancelloni and Vicky Castaneda, Gina and Joey Yupangco, Lilibeth and Pacqui Campos, Honey Illusorio and Victor Agustin, and Katrina Goulbourn and Chris Feist.

Ariel Lozada directed the show. Haircut and styling were by Eric Feury of Franck Provost. Patrick Rosas did the makeup, using Shiseido. Figlia and Celine provided the shoes; Fino Tapes the garment accessories; and Lilibeth Campos the accessories.

> Tan-Gan gives an urban twist to the ethnic motif by sophisticated draping

MARION Lamy, Jeanne Goulbourn, Diana Go and Wanda Louwallien


EVA Abesamis, Gigi Montinola and Tanya Montelibano

MIA Borromeo and Sigalit Djemal

TONETTE Salcedo and Oscar Atendido

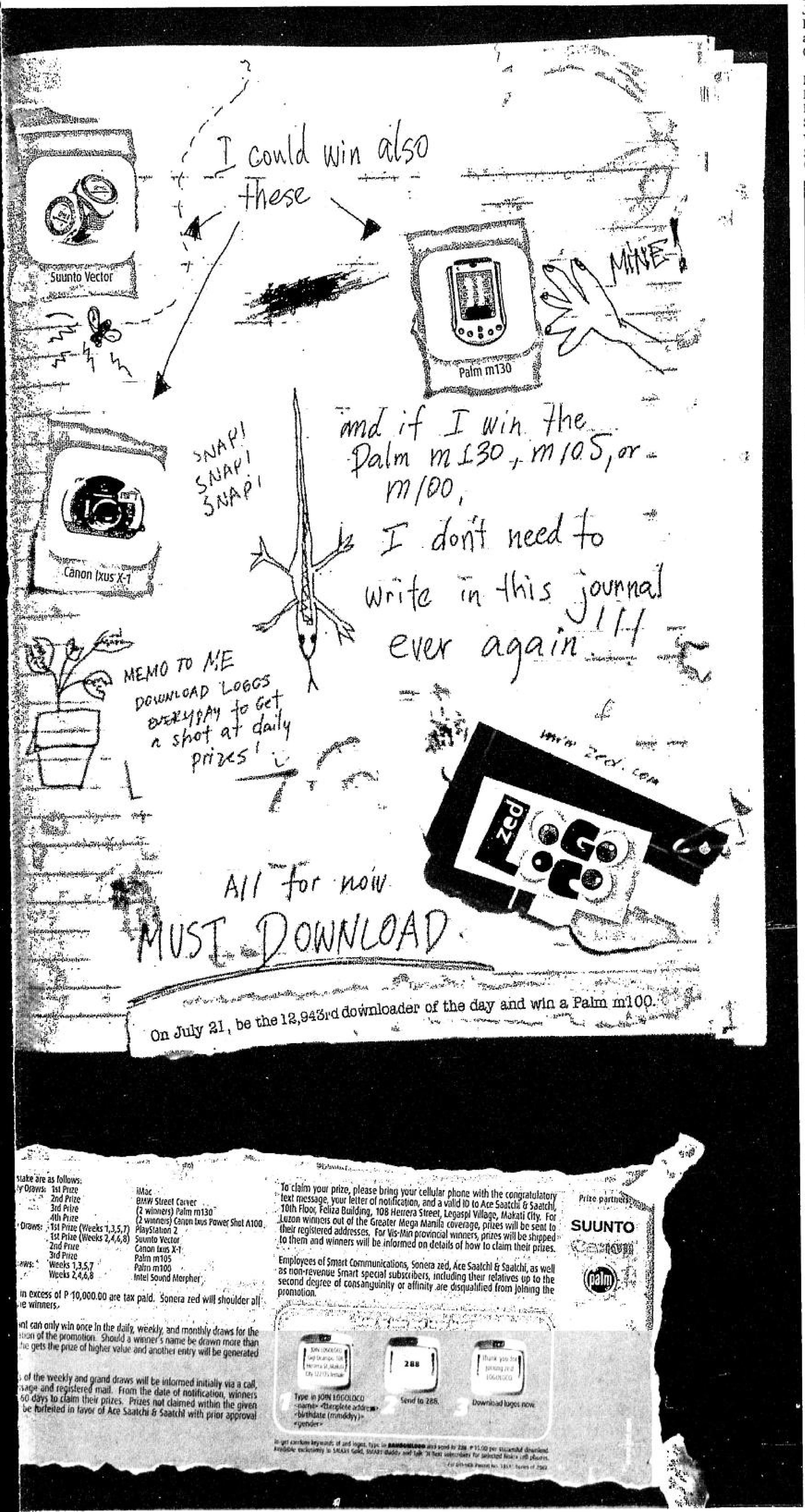
ALLIANCE Francaise's Philippe Normand

JACQUES Dupasquier

MONIQUE Albert

JOE Salazar and Pitoy Moreno

MANFRED Spiering and Josef Gueta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Employees of Smart Communications, Sonera zed, Ace Saatchi & Saatchi, as well as non-revenue Smart special subscribers, including their relatives up to the second degree of consanguinity or affinity are disqualified from joining the promotion.

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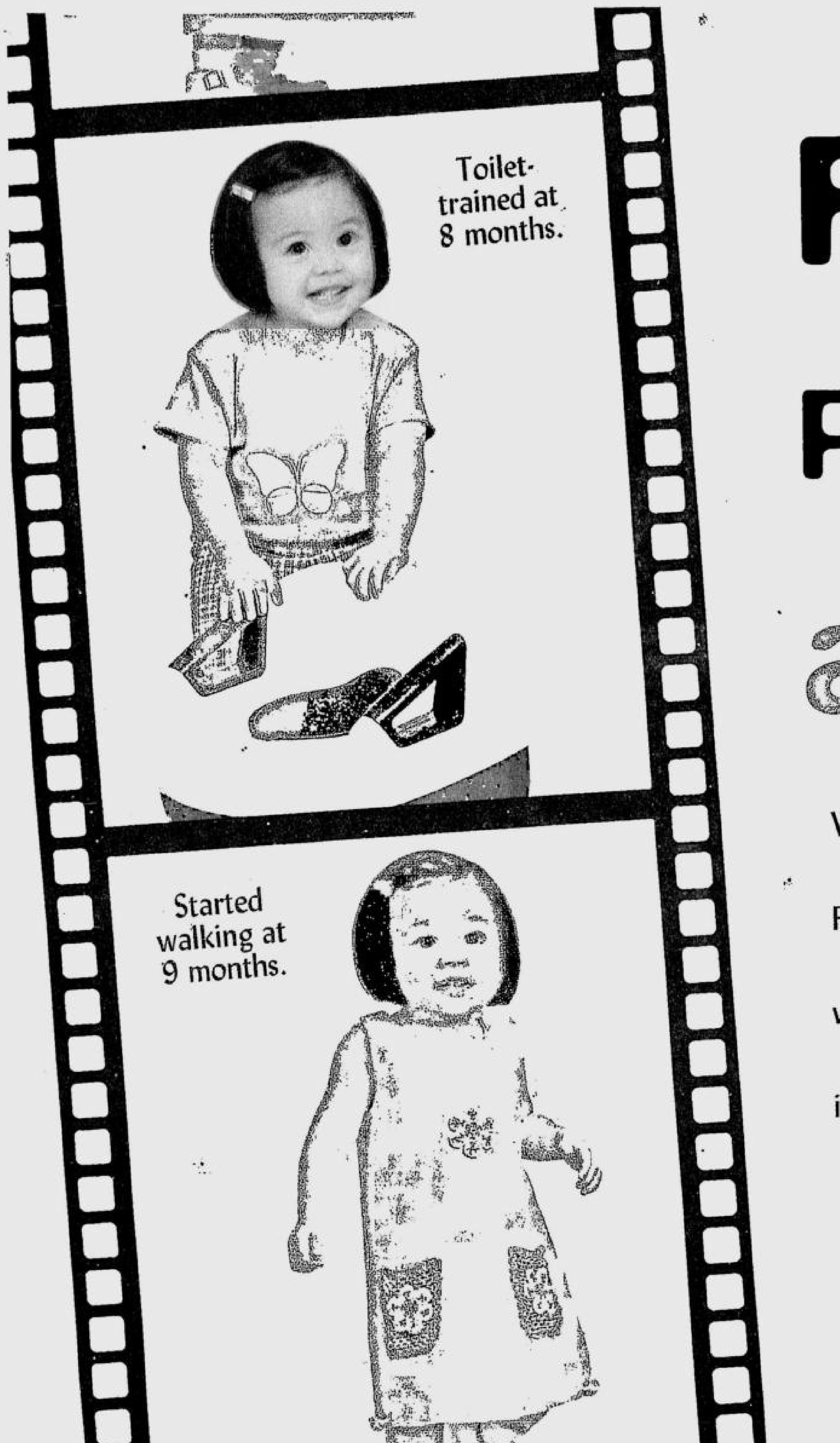
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84-86 P. Florentino Street, Sta. Mesa Heights, Quezon City
Please bring your resumé with brief description of your work experience, transcript of record and 2x2 picture.

Post of Programme Clerk/Secretary

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) is seeking applications from suitable candidates for the post of a Programme Clerk/Secretary.

Duties and Responsibilities:
The successful candidate will be required to provide secretariat support to the programme team of UNFPA. UNFPA programs support Reproductive Health and Population activities to improve the quality of life of the Filipinos and globally. The tasks to be performed by the incumbent are as follows:

- perform standard secretarial tasks tasks, such as managing time of program staff, scheduling meetings, drafting and preparing correspondences to stakeholders, donors and other relevant partners and agencies.
- Manage office functioning by answering incoming calls and screening them to direct to appropriate persons, responding to queries by outsiders, receiving visitors and introducing them to concerned staff and briefing visitors about UNFPA.
- Manage meeting schedules for all staff and teams as appropriate.
- Provide incoming and outgoing correspondences and manage appropriate filing system
- Assist supervisors in maintaining electronic and hard data files
- Conduct literature search electronically as requested by supervisor
- Take minutes of meetings and disseminate them properly
- Coordinate with Administration Team to arrange travel of staff, fellows, and visitors
- Coordinate with Finance Team to process payment of project-related expenses
- Perform other duties as may be assigned

Competencies and qualifications:
The incumbent must be result-oriented with high communication skills, College degree in business administration or office management with 3 to 5 years of experience in the relevant field is requuired. The candidate must possess excellent competence in word processing, spreadsheet and presentation skills. Fluency in Pilipino and English languages is required. Innovation at work, cultural sensitivity and adaptibility, integrity and corporate dedication, commitment to learning and knowledge-sharing and client orientation are highly desirable qualities.

The deadline for submission of application is: August 10, 2002.

Applications must be sent to:
**The Representative
United Nations Population Fund
P.O. Box 7285, DAPO
Pasay City, Metro Manila
Or through e-mail to: officemail@unfpa.org.ph**

SYKES℠

Real People. Real Solutions.

With 44 call centers worldwide, Sykes is a global leader in providing customer and technical support services for many of the world's best known companies. From its Manila Call Center, Sykes currently supports 18 clients in 6 languages, handling the transactions throughout Asia, Europe and the USA.

Our recent expansion includes the provision of qualified **CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES** for a primary player for consumer retail management and consumer-related services.

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES

The successful applicants will process all customer complaints, compliments and requests to enhance customer relations. They will also record and forward these to the appropriate party.

Interested applicants must have the following qualifications:

- Must be a college graduate from a reputable College or University;
- Minimum of 6 months customer service experience gained from a retail management and/or consumer-related services industry;
- Excellent data analysis and problem solving skills;
- Fluent in written and verbal communication skills and knowledgeable in various MS Office applications and the Internet;
- Team player and willing to work on a shifting schedule.

** Only qualified applications will be processed.
** Previous applicants need not apply.

This is an __URGENT__ requirement. If you possess the qualifications and skills that we are looking for, kindly submit your updated resumé to the Human Resources Department, 4F SMPC Building, St. Francis Avenue, Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City 1550. You can also send your updated CV's in text format or as body of the e-mail to hrd@man.ph.sykes.com

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SYKES℠

Real People. Real Solutions.

With 40 call centers worldwide, Sykes is a global leader in providing customer and technical support services for many of the world's best known companies. From its Manila Call Center, Sykes currently supports 18 clients in 8 languages, handling the transactions throughout Asia, Europe and the USA.

Our recent expansion includes the provision of **CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES** for one of the world's leading global travel, financial and network services provider. Due to this, we are in immediate need of highly qualified:

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES for Finance

Candidates must be:

- College graduate preferably Accounting, Financial Management and other Business-related courses
- Work experience in Financial Auditing, Stock Brokerage, Portfolio Management and Financial Services is an advantage
- NSDA Series 6 and/or 7 License, a requirement
- Excellent reading comprehension skills, problem solving and data analysis skills
- Has the ability to absorb and utilize complex information
- Has an eye for detail; excellent customer service skills
- Fluent communication skills in English
- Willing to work on shifting schedule

If you think you possess the qualifications and skills that we are looking for, kindly submit your updated resumé along with your NBI Clearance and Transcript of Records to the Human Resources Department, 4F SMPC Building, St. Francis Avenue, Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City 1550. You can also send it via e-mail to hrd@man.ph.sykes.com

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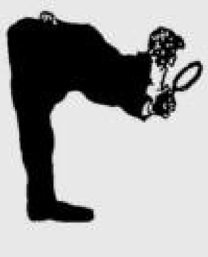
Where you find the best.



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Experienced, motivated, professional, dynamic

Plant General Manager for Davao Multi-Plant Operation

- Male, 40 - 45 years
- Mechanical or Industrial Engineer
- At least 5 years of experience

Compensation Rate above industry standards

Direct Resumé and recent 2x2 photograph to:

Personnel Department
Box KA-021-02 PM
c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer
Classified Ads Division
G/F Trinity Bldg.
636 T.M. Kalaw Street, Ermita, Manila

NOW HIRING

THE NATURE'S WAY AROMATHERAPY

SALES SUPERVISOR

- Female, 27-35 yrs. old
- At least 1 yr. experience in handling sales force

SALES REPRESENTATIVE (Skin Care Division)

- Male/Female, 21-30 yrs. old
- W/Selling ability or w/ or w/o background in selling cosmetics

LADY MASSEUR

- With experience

SALON ASSISTANT

- W or w/o experience
- Willing to learn aromatherapy

Send your RESUME w/ 2x2 picture at:

The Nature's Way Aromatherapy Co.
Unit G, MCY Bldg. (beside PNB) 137 Roosevelt Ave., SFDM, Quezon City
Tel. 372-3288 Email. natureswayaroma@skyinet.net

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

SALES MANAGER

- College graduate preferably with a degree in Business Management with at least five years Management experience in sales
- Not below 40 years old
- Good in oral and written communications
- Pleasing personality and must possess leadership qualities and people-handling skills
- Highly-motivated, dynamic and results-oriented
- Can drive with a valid driver's license

Please send letter of application with resumé, transcript of records and recent ID photo to:

PERSONNEL
SIBS PUBLISHING HOUSE, INC.
2nd Floor, NB Santos Building
937 Quezon Avenue
Quezon City 1104

SYBASE developers

Earn top salary providing production support for a major American securities firm in Manila.

Required skills include **Sybase** development experience and **UNIX** skills working in a distributed/networked environment (should be familiar with shell scripting languages such as kourne or bourne shell). Additional skills such as PERL and C and working in an N-Tier architecture are a plus, as well as any financial applications experience.

Minimum 2 years experience in each required skill. Several weeks training provided in New York -- possible sponsorship and transfer. Submit resumé to Jobs@BachNY.com. Specify MS03 in Subject line.

IMMEDIATE HIRING

QUALITY ASSURANCE MANAGER

- At least 5 years experience in a knitted garments firm
- Excellent in verbal and written communication skills
- Computer literate

KNITTING IN-CHARGE

- Male/Female
- Proficient in English both oral and written
- Good Moral character and hardworking
- College graduate (any 4 or 5-year course)
- Computer literate
- At least five (5) years experience in a garment set-up
- Able to handle sub-contracting schedules and planning
- Supervisory level

Maintenance/Knitting Technician
Skilled Linkers
Skilled Menders/Inspectors
Skilled Sewers

Interested parties may send their resumé or apply personally at:

PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT
428 Calbayog Street, Mandaluyong City
or Email us: mrpersonnel@qinet.net or call us at Tel. No. 533-5174
Look for Ms. Amy A. Adlaon

CONSULTING TEAM, INC. (CTi),

a non-stock, non-profit consulting resource organization is in need of an

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

to oversee the day-to-day office administrative functions which include personnel matters, communications, filing and documentation, coordination with local NGOs and People's Organizations for meetings, seminars and travel and relating with the government agencies (SSS, etc.) and other private entities. S/he will provide support to the Program Director and project officers as well as provide support service to project teams as necessary.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- at least three (3) years experience as an administrative officer
- a graduate of any social science course or its equivalent in job experience
- computer literate (MS Word and Excel, email)
- good oral and written communication skills
- good command of English language
- experience in working with civil society groups and aid agencies an advantage
- ability to relate with people from different fields or sectors

__Send in your application with a full CV and latest photo to:__

The Search Committee
CONSULTING TEAM, INC.
51 Mapagbigay Street, Central District
1100 Quezon City
email: cti_phil@mozcom.com

Only applications received by **02 August 2002** will be considered for screening. A competitive compensation package awaits the successful applicant. (Salary is negotiable depending on experience and qualifications).

URGENT REQUIREMENT

QUANXI COMMUNICATIONS, INC., a worldclass animation outsource studio is looking for:

PROFESSIONAL 2D ANIMATORS (15)

- have proven portfolio of quality animation
- experience in doing films and/or series
- working knowledge in US Animation and ANIMO software a plus

ASSISTANT 2D ANIMATORS (30)

- good graphic artists
- experience in working for 2D studio as animator a plus
- exposure to US Animation and ANIMO software a plus
- creative imaginative, good in color combination, and conceptualizing designs

HR MANAGER

- female, with thorough experience in recruitment, training, setting employee benefits, and handling of employee relations
- experience in labor laws and dealing with union

SEND YOUR DETAILED RESUMÉS AND BEST PORTFOLIOS TO:

THE HUMAN RESOURCE DEPARTMENT
Quanxi Communications, Inc.
28/F Tower II, The Enterprise Center
6766 Ayala Avenue, Makati City 1226
Philippines

A MULTINATIONAL DIVERSIFIED COMPANY ENGAGE IN CONSTRUCTION PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT HAS RECENTLY OPENED UP ITS TRADING DIVISION TO DISTRIBUTE 100% AUSTRALIAN HEALTH PRODUCTS IS IN NEED OF THE FOLLOWING POSITION:

SALES & MARKETING MANAGER

Female, between 26 to 32, single, a graduate of Marketing, Management, Mass Comm from Ateneo, La Salle, UP or St. Paul, with 3-5 years working experience in a similar capacity or equivalent from MLM, International Trading Co and Distributors of foreign products, drives a car, owns a cellphone, very articulate and highly presentable.

This requirement is urgent and all potential applicants are required to bring their resumé and latest 2x2 pictures to: Unit D, Ground Floor, The Belvedere Tower, San Miguel Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City. Tel. No. 638-8551

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
JOBMarket ONLINE
VISIT US AT **www.jobmarketonline.com**

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

Pacific Blooms

The Art Where Heart Speaks

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

- will report directly to the President
- work experience a must
- highly articulate
- college graduate from any reputable school
- pleasing personality
- female, 23-30 yrs. old
- preferably single
- good moral character
- computer literate
- willing to work long hours

MARKETING ASSISTANTS

- with sales experience
- college graduate from any reputable school
- female, 23-30 yrs. old
- pleasing personality
- preferable single
- good moral standing
- computer literate
- willing to work long hours

FLORAL ARTISTS

- male or female
- experience in same or related industry preferred
- singles preferred but the highly qualified marrieds will be considered
- high school graduate
- willing to work long hours

Previous applicants need not apply.

Come for an interview and bring 2x2 colored photos (2pcs.), Resume, Certificate of Residency, NBI and Police Clearances at 19 Examiner St. West Triangle, Q.C. from July 22-26(except Wed.), 10am-12nn and 1-4pm.

SPORTSHOUSE INTERNATIONAL
LEISURE, INC.

Is in need of qualified and dynamic individual to fill the following vacant positions.

ACCOUNTING HEAD

- Must be Accounting graduate; female
- Possess good moral character
- Willing to work under pressure
- With at least one year working experience

MARKETING OFFICER

- Marketing graduate; female
- Aggressive and result-oriented
- With marketing experience

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

- Female
- Fluent in English
- With good oral and written communication skills
- Preferably with experience

Interested applicants may submit or send your resumé at:

19 PECTON BUILDING
GILMORE AVENUE, NEW MANILA
QUEZON CITY
or you may call us at 721-2480; 721-5553

WELL-ESTABLISHED
PAPER MILL
needs

COST ACCOUNTING SUPERVISOR

Male/Female, Accounting graduate, 3 years minimum finance experience in manufacturing firm, prof. in activity based costing, financial/capital budget report prep., cost benefit analysis, computer literate.

MANAGEMENT TRAINEES

Male/Female, college graduate, good academic background.

WELDERS

Trade school graduate, 3 years welding experience.

Mail basic resumé to:

Personnel Department
CONTAINER CORP. OF THE PHILS.
60 Old Samson Road
Balintawak, Quezon City

SGV & Co

The country's largest professional services firm invites graduates with a **passion for excellence** to join SGV & Co. as:

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

- ☐ Bachelor's degree, preferably in a business-related course
- ☐ Computer literacy and mastery of Microsoft Word, Excel and Powerpoint
- ☐ Good interpersonal and communication skills
- ☐ At least one year work experience

FACILITIES OFFICER

- ☐ At least two years hotel experience
- ☐ College graduate with an HRM or Architecture degree
- ☐ Good oral and written communication skills
- ☐ Proficient in English
- ☐ Possesses leadership qualities and is service-oriented

Send your resumé, 2x2 picture, and transcript of records to:

SGV & Co
Human Resources Group
6760 Ayala Avenue
Makati City, Philippines

www.sgv.com.ph

HELP WANTED

VALLEY GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB, INC.

need a

GENERAL MANAGER

and

GOLF SUPERINTENDENT

to manage the golf courses and its facilities and to administer activities of the Club.

Minimum qualification requirements are as follows:

General Manager must be male, 35/45 years old, and college degree holder with 5 to 10 years managerial experience. Must be service oriented and possess strong inter-personal relations with both staff and general membership.

Golf Superintendent must be 30/45 years old, bachelor degree holder in Engineering or in turf management, horticulture, golf courses operation or landscape architecture. Has previous experience or basic knowledge on turf and equipment maintenance, golf course operation and management. Possess good management skills and interpersonal relations. Must be able to communicate both in English and Pilipino, has knowledge of DENR laws and regulations affecting golf course operations and must be a Certified Golf Course Superintendent or equivalent.

**Applicants must submit resumés to the
Administration Committee, Valley Golf & Country Club, Inc.
Antipolo City, not later than 10 August 2002**

A Leading and Reputable Watch Company
is in need of:

CUSTOMER SERVICE SUPERVISOR

- ○ Female, at least 25 - 35 years old
- ○ Graduate of any business course
- ○ Excellent interpersonal and communication skills both in oral and written
- ○ Customer-oriented and self-motivated
- ○ With pleasing personality and good moral character
- ○ Minimum of two (2) years relevant experience
- ○ Computer Literate

Qualified applicants must mail their resumes with detailed job description and 2" x 2" ID photo to:

**P.O. BOX 1811
MAKATI CENTRAL POST OFFICE
MAKATI CITY**

A prestigious Makati-based law firm

has immediate opening for

ONE SENIOR LEGAL SECRETARY AND ONE JUNIOR LEGAL SECRETARY

- with at least 2 years experience in a law firm
- computer literate (preferably graduate of 4-year Computer Science)
- not more than 28 years old

Please send comprehensive resumé and 2x2 photo to:

**P.O. Box 3256
MCPO, Makati City 1272
Philippines**

Are you up for the challenge?

Global Sources leads the field in creating and facilitating global trade between buyers and suppliers. We provide worldwide trading partners with the right information, at the right time, in the right format.

Our winning team of 1,800 people worldwide is skilled, tech-savvy and thrives in a dynamic, cross-cultural environment. If this sounds like you, then we are currently looking for:

Copy Editor

To be part of a team editing and writing news and product reports, and putting together the print, CD-ROM and online versions of a high-tech trade magazine. You should be a degree holder, preferably in English/Journalism/Communications. You must have excellent spoken and written English language skills and be computer literate with knowledge of the Internet. Candidates with exposure to international trade and 1-2 years editorial/writing experience in the electronics/computers/telecoms industry would be at an advantage.

A competitive remuneration package and a truly challenging, international and dynamic work environment awaits the right candidate. Interested parties should send their resume and contact details to any of the following:

**Corporate Human Resources
online: career.globalsources.com
e-mail: gshr@globalsources.com
fax: (632) 892-4087
post: P.O. Box 4597, MCPO, Makati City**

global sources
www.globalsources.com

BRITISH EMBASSY
Manila

TRADE
PARTNERS UK
www.tradepartners.gov.uk

COMMERCIAL OFFICER

The British Embassy's Trade & Investment Section seeks a Commercial Officer to assist and advise British firms doing business in the Philippines. The duties include giving general and specific information on assigned market sectors, products, projects and industries; organising trade missions and exhibitions; and developing a network of well placed contacts.

Applicants should be university graduates with a good degree majoring in business, economics or engineering. Further requirements for this senior position are five years experience in business development or marketing and an established range of contacts within commerce and government. The successful candidate will need a strong command of written and oral English, an ability to think clearly and an outgoing, confident personality. He or she will also be required to undertake a small amount of travel within the Philippines and must be available to attend a limited number of business events after office hours. There will also be a need to travel within Asia and to complete a training course in London and thereafter to visit the United Kingdom as business dictates.

Starting salary Pesos 33,312 net monthly plus benefits, incrementally rising to Pesos 53,460 over twelve years.

Applications in writing with curriculum vitaé, 2x2 photograph and self-addressed stamped envelope to:

**Management Officer (MO)
British Embassy
17/F, LV Locsin Building
6752 Ayala Avenue
Makati City**

Applications must be received on or before 31 July 2002.

STRICTLY NO ENQUIRIES BY TELEPHONE, PLEASE.

WANTED IMMEDIATELY

AGRESSIVE INDIVIDUALS W/ PLEASING PERSONALITY
for positions as

SALES EXECUTIVES

come and be part of the sales force of a

WELL-KNOWN MANUFACTURER OF BRANDED CHILDREN PRODUCTS

- Graduate of any four-year course, preferably degree in Mass Communication, Marketing, or any business related course.
- Good communication & strong, inter-personal skills and a team player.
- Self-motivated, organized, hard-working, out-going and honest.
- Dedicated to selling, presentation, and account management.

All applicants must be between 20 to 35 years old and preferably a born-again Christian. Please send your resumé with cover letter, a recent ID photo, xeroxed copy of Transcript of Records, and your phone number to:

**P.O. Box 408
Greenhills, San Juan 1502
Metro Manila**

Rustan's

urgently needs...

ARTISTS

☑ Male, between 21-30 years old
☑ Fine Arts or Interior Design graduate
☑ With creative skills in drawing, lettering, silk screening, flower arranging, etc.
☑ Willing to work beyond working hours

BEAUTY THERAPISTS

☑ Female, between 21-28 years old
☑ 5'2" and above in height
☑ With pleasing personality and clear complexion
☑ Graduate of Nursing or Physical Therapy
☑ With good communication skills
☑ Preferably near Alabang area

BEAUTY CONSULTANTS

☑ Female, between 21-28 years old
☑ Graduate of any (4) four-year Business related course
☑ At least 5'2" in height with pleasing personality and clear complexion
☑ Preferably with skin care experience/Cosmetology and Make-up Artist skills
☑ Good in oral communication skills

SALES ASSOCIATES

(For Holiday Season)

☑ Female, between 21-28 years old
☑ Graduate of any (4) four-year Business related course
☑ At least 5'2" in height with clear complexion
☑ Must have initiative, ability and sustained interest in selling
☑ Must possess a pleasing and dynamic personality
☑ Good in oral communication skills

FINANCIAL SUPERVISOR

☑ Between 21-35 years old
☑ Accounting graduate, computer literate
☑ Must be results-oriented and highly analytical
☑ Preferably with related work experience
☑ Willing to work beyond regular office hours

Interested applicants may apply personally to:

RUSTAN'S HEAD OFFICE
G/F Rustan Building, EDSA, Mandaluyong City
(near Ortigas fly-over, across Corinthian Garden in EDSA)
Applicants may be accommodated from Monday to Thursday
between 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

EBARA BENGUET, INC., (EBI) a manufacturer and exporter of stainless steel pump parts and component located in the Canlubang Industrial Estate, Cabuyao, Laguna, is in need of a hardworking staff with good moral character to fill up the position of:

Machine Shop Technical Center Manager

Qualifications:

- Male or Female not more than 40 years of age
- Graduate of BSME or BSIE or BS Mech Tech
- Minimum 5 years experience in Machine Shop on a supervisory level
- With hands-on operating knowledge on Conventional machines and/or CNC machine
- Familiar in machining stainless steel materials and castings
- Working knowledge of 5S and Kaizen is important
- Preferably with knowledge of ISO 9000
- Proficient in oral and written communication, knowledge of Japanese language is an advantage
- Possess strong managerial, interpersonal and analytical skills
- Computer literate

Please send resumé Attn. to the: **Material & Administration**
Fax No. (049) 549-1915
Email: ebimatls@mozcom.com
P.O. Box 3461 MCPO, 1274 Makati

WANTED: MATURE EXPERIENCED DRIVER

Qualifications -

- Married; 30-40 years old; Non-Smoker; does not take alcoholic beverages.
- At least 5'8" in height. Must be in good health. (Those with health problems need not apply. Successful applicants will be subjected to physical and psychological tests before final acceptance).
- 5-6 years experience in driving and maintaining large vehicles particularly M-Benz 500, Lincoln Continental, GM Suburbans and Club wagons. Must possess overall knowledge of major components of a vehicle engine, transmission, differential, air-conditioning, power steering, etc.
- At least 2 years college or vocational education. Able to speak Pilipino & English fluently.
- Semi live-in: Goes home every other night. Day off every other Sunday. Must be ready and willing to travel abroad with employer. While at work, all meals are provided gratis by employer.
- Applicant must be willing to accept additional responsibilities within and outside the residence of the employer.

Benefits -

- Very good salary will be provided but commensurate to qualifications, experience and efficient working attitude. Work performance will be reviewed after a probationary period of at least 6 months prior to status change as permanent employee.
- Regular vacation and sick leave as provided by law.
- Medical assistance beyond that provided by SSS or Medicare when employee becomes permanent and if illness is work related.
- Bonuses as provided by law.
- Extra incentives such as additional bonus for exemplary work rendered and additional allowance in foreign currency is provided the employee when he travels abroad annually on 3-4 separate occasions with employer as a travelling companion.

Mail your Application/Resumé with the following:

Written formal references
2x2 ID pictures
Barangay Clearance
Police Clearance
NBI Clearance

Address: "MATURE EXPERIENCED DRIVER"
MK-93
c/o PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
G/F ATRIUM BLDG., MAKATI AVE.,
MAKATI CITY

Can you manage?

We are the team behind the market leaders in the biggest industries today.
It is our job to make sure they are on top.
In the same way we are.

So we hire only the best.
Can YOU handle that?

CONSULTANTS EXPERTS

Male or Female, at least 30 years old
With at least 2 years training/consulting experience in the ff. standard-based management systems:

QMS Quality Management Systems (ISO 9000, QS 9000, ISO/TS 16949, etc)
EMS Environmental Management Systems (ISO 14000)
OHS Occupational Health and Safety (OHSAS 18000)

SA 8000 Social Accountability
TQM / Philippine Quality Award or PQA / MBNQA

Management experience in any industry a plus
Has own transportation, Flexible, Willing to travel
Full-time or part-time engagement

Send us your comprehensive resumé with a colored 2"x2" photo to either

✉1 rosehall@info.com.ph

✉2 **ROSEHALL Management Consultants Inc.**
1405 Prestige Tower
Emerald Avenue,
Ortigas Center
Pasig City

A LEADING LAW FIRM INVITES APPLICANTS FOR THE POSITION OF:

SENIOR PROGRAMMER

The Work

The Senior Programmer will have the responsibility of supporting the Firm's application systems as well as developing and maintaining Windows/browser-based applications.

Qualifications

- Bachelor of Science in Computer Science degree, or related courses
- At least 3 years programming experience in MS Visual Basic/MS SQL Server/ASP pages/Scripting languages
- Familiar with CASE tools
- Knowledge in SQL database administration is preferred
- Accounting knowledge is a plus
- Excellent command of written and spoken English
- Good communication skills
- Able to learn and adapt quickly
- Must enjoy working with others in a team environment
- Able to work with people from other countries
- Willingness to travel on short notice
- Under 35 years of age and in good health

Qualified applicants may submit their resumé (please indicate current salary), 2x2 picture, and other credentials to:

THE OFFICE MANAGER
11th Floor, Pacific Star Building
Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue corner Makati Avenue
Makati City

A LEADING LAW FIRM INVITES APPLICANTS FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITION:

NETWORK ADMINISTRATOR

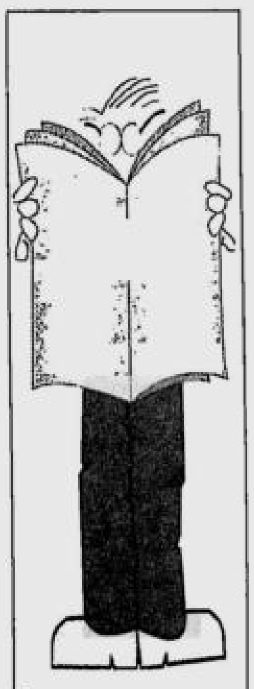
Responsible for LAN Administration, set-up and trouble-shooting of PCs; user training and support, as well as liaison with vendors and contractors on hardware and cabling issues, the candidate must:

✓ be a degree holder in computer engineering, information technology, or any related course
✓ be knowledgeable on PC hardware, software, and LAN/WAN concepts, operations, and maintenance
✓ have a favorable background on Windows NT / 2000 / XP, MS Office, and other software programs
✓ have a minimum of 3 to 4 years relevant working experience
✓ have excellent verbal and written command of the English language
✓ be an organized, responsible and flexible individual

Interested applicants may submit their resumé, a 2x2 picture and other credentials to:

THE OFFICE MANAGER
11th Floor, Pacific Star Bldg.
Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue corner Makati Avenue,
Makati City

(Please indicate current salary)



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www.jobmarketonline.com

JOBMarket ONLINE

The best companies need the best people.

A NEW MULTIMEDIA DIVISION IN A VIDEO PRODUCTION COMPANY IS LOOKING FOR THE FF:

1 PART-TIME / FULL TIME AUTHORWARE PROGRAMMER

- With at least one year experience in using Authorware
- 21-35 years old
- College Graduate
- Must be creative, hard-working, reliable and results-oriented
- Able to work under minimum supervision

1 PART-TIME / FULL TIME FLASH & PHOTOSHOP ARTIST

- With at least one year experience in using Flash and Photoshop
- 21-35 years old
- College Graduate
- Must be creative, hard-working, reliable and results-oriented
- Able to work under minimum supervision

1 FULL TIME MESSENGER

- High School Graduate
- Able to get around Metro Manila via public transportation
- Must be hard-working, reliable and able to work under minimum supervision

Please send resumé to Rm. 906 Future Point Plaza 1
112 Panay Ave., Quezon City
before July 31, 2002.

GeoSpatial Solutions

BEYOND SPATIAL INTELLIGENCE
Www.geospatial.com.ph

Meet interesting people. Learn about the latest in information systems and geospatial technologies. Be part of an innovative development team and a progressive information technology (IT) firm that prides itself in providing quality service and products to its clients. Apply to GeoSpatial Solutions, TODAY!

We are looking for the following ICT Professionals to be part of our team:

FINANCE MANAGER

The candidate will be responsible for the direct supervision and control over the Finance function. He/she must have extensive experience in the areas of corporate finance, preparation of monthly financial reports including budget/ cash flow projections, monitoring of income and expenditure budget, and maintenance of financial records. He/she must be proficient in financial and accounting packages, has established relationship with banking and finance institutions and can develop long-term project-based funding requirements.

Must be a CPA, with at least five (5) years related supervisory or managerial experience in Finance, technically proficient with the use of MS Office, and has good communications, presentation and interpersonal skills.

VB PROGRAMMERS

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SYSTEM ANALYSTS
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- Recommendation Letter
- 1x1 picture
- Letter of Application
- Official Transcript of Records

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Resumé with ID Photo
Transcript of Records

to:

The Personnel Manager
430 Mayon Street, Sta. Mesa Heights
1114 Quezon City

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The position is primarily responsible for duties consisting of bond administration of ADB's outstanding debt and related swap transactions in the currencies of Yen, Swiss franc, New Taiwan dollar and Korean won; participating in market purchases of ADB bonds; assisting in execution of ADB's euro-commercial paper program; assisting in liability management program of ADB borrowings; and assisting in enhancing Borrowing Portfolio System. Specific responsibilities include:

- Gathers, analyzes and organizes data from borrowing and swap agreements, board papers, side letters and other borrowing documents;
- Ensures that all salient data needed for debt servicing and compliance to bond covenants are inputted into the Borrowing Portfolio System;
- Ensures that debt service payments due on borrowings are made accurately and in a timely manner;
- Ensures that all factors needed in debt service, i.e. interest rate, calculation basis, payment mode, banking centers, banking convention, bond servicing requirements, etc. as prescribed in borrowing documents are taken into account;
- Prepares vouchers with detailed payment instructions that serve as an authorization for Treasury Services Division to remit payments and ensures that these vouchers are forwarded on time and payments received by respective payees on value dates;
- Ensures that ADB complies with all covenants as stipulated on borrowing and swap documents;
- Ensures that borrowing proceeds are credited to proper ADB accounts and taken up in the books correctly;
- Participates in market purchases of ADB bonds by evaluating the financial benefits to be derived from it and preparing necessary voucher for its settlement;
- Assists in liability management program by monitoring ADB callable borrowings, calculating financial benefits and serving of call notice to the fiscal agents and ensuring that payment vouchers for such early redemption are made accurately and on time;
- Assists in execution of euro-commercial paper program (ECP) by preparing issuance instructions to Issuing and Clearing Agent and the trade confirmation to the dealer; monitoring ECP redemptions and ensuring that payment are executed properly and on a timely basis; preparing board papers to advise the board on ECP issuance and the quarterly report to Moody's Investors Service; and preparing necessary vouchers to take up ECP issuance and redemption;
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- Prepares correspondence to fiscal agents, underwriters and tax authorities on matters relating to bond administration; and
- Maintains and updates all records related to borrowings in above currencies.

Selection Criteria:

- Suitability to undertake the responsibilities mentioned above at the required level;
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2. Transcript of Records
3. PRC licensure ID

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All applicants must be between 20 to 35 years old and preferably a born-again Christian. We specially welcome candidates who reside in Quezon City, Caloocan, Bulacan areas or northern parts of Metro Manila. Please send your resumé with cover letter, a recent ID photo, xeroxed copy of Transcript of Records, xeroxed samples of your work, and your phone number to:

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Metro Manila

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10 a.m. **OR** 2 p.m. **OR** 6 p.m. (choose one)

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- Preferably CPA

TECHNICAL & BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS
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- 1 Graduate of Economics or Business Administration
- Female, single
- At least 1 to 2 years working experience
- Computer Proficient
- Good communication skills

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANTS
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- At least 1 to 2 years Experience
- Computer Proficient
- Good communication skills

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- Female
- With at least 2 years Experience

All interested applicants are advised to personally present themselves with their comprehensive resumé and 2x2 picture at:

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169 Pasig Blvd., Pasig City
Tel. No. 671-2831 to 32

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☐ Excellent communication skills both written & oral
☐ Computer literate
☐ Aggressive, outgoing & personable
☐ Hardworking & willing to work long hours

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☐ Computer literate
☐ Can speak English fluently
☐ With one year experience as telephone operator

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APPLICANTS MAY SEND THEIR COMPREHENSIVE RESUMÉ WITH PICTURE TO:
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☒ Preferably with experience from a manufacturing firm

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(Code: HRS)
☒ At least 1 year HR-work experience
☒ Can work with minimum supervision

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HRD (Code: _____)
FEP Printing Corporation
Louie R. Prieto Press Building
Mascardo St. near corner Pasong Tamo
Makati City

or

Email to: araygon@fep.ph

ERRATUM

In the ad of **THE WORLD BANK** on July 14 issue of Jobmarket, the deadline for sending the application letter should have been **July 15, 2002** instead of July 22, 2002 as published.

Our apologies

EASTERN DRAGON MARKETING, a leading importer and distributor of Hot and Cold Water Dispenser is in need of

SALES EXECUTIVE

for immediate hiring

QUALIFICATIONS:
✓ Male/Female
✓ 20 years old and above
✓ With and without selling experience
✓ Good in written and oral communication
✓ Can work with minimal supervision
✓ Must have a high level of confidence and a great deal of passion for success and career growth
✓ Graduate of Marketing or any business course

COMPENSATION:
Basic salary
Attractive commission per sale.

Interested applicants may submit their resumé, transcript of records with 2x2 photo (Monday to Friday from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM only) at:

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#5 Esperanza St., Don Pedro Village
Marulas, Valenzuela City
Tel #: 279-9935, Fax# 291-5716

or e-mail at: **gtomktg@pacific.net.ph**

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☞ should be computer literate (i.e. MS Office)
☞ proficient in both oral and written English
☞ new graduates are welcome

Contact persons:
Myra or Dess
MCPO Box 1646, 1256 Makati City
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* Willing to start immediately

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All Interested applicants may apply personally with comprehensive resume, original credentials & 2x2 photo on July 22- Aug. 2,2002 in proper bus. attire at:

Office of the Director
ROOM 003, Bldg. 235-C EDSA EXT'N PASAY CITY
(Walking distance from MRT Taft along EDSA, going to Roxas Blvd., near Savers Square Dept.Store, beside Allied Bank & Jianshe)

Look for: Engr. Francis

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Manila Call Center Incorporated
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Those interested apply in person to
The Personnel Management
24-I Summit Tower, 530 Shaw Blvd. Mandaluyong City
or
FAX your resumé to: (632) 718-3964 • 927-0974

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Interested applicants are requested to bring Resumé and NBI clearance on July 27, August 3 & 10 between 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 nn

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Tel. No. 733-7690, 736-2648
Look for Ms. Liezel Onayan

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A fast-growing I.T. company engaged in the trading of computer and CCTV security products is seeking qualified applicants for various positions:

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✓ Male/Female, below 35 years old, college graduate
✓ Must have at least 2 years sales experience in IT industry and/or CCTV security systems
✓ Computer literate, with strong leadership, communication & interpersonal skills
✓ Will be assigned to do field work
• Qualified applicants may receive min. of P 15,000 + commission •

Project Engineers
✓ Male, 25-35 years old, graduate of mechanical or electrical engineering
✓ Experienced in installation of electronic security systems
✓ Excellent written and oral communication skills
✓ Strong interpersonal and managerial skills, computer literate

Telemarketers
✓ M/F college graduate, at least 23 years old, preferably with experience in IT industry
✓ Aggressive, with excellent communication skills and a pleasant voice
# Bring your comprehensive resumé and photo to:

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Rm. 805 State Centre Bldg.,
333 Juan Luna St., Binondo, Manila

An established and fast growing Japanese cosmetics company is seeking for a highly-motivated & talented individual for the position of:

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☞ Preferably a degree holder in marketing
☞ Between 22-25, male or female
☞ Strong research, communication and reporting skills

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☞ Preferably a graduate of 4 year Secretarial course
☞ Between 22-25 (Female), with pleasing personality
☞ And knowledge in shorthand

Other requirements for the above:
☞ Computer literate
☞ Good command of oral and written English

Interested applicants may apply & bring their resumé, transcript of records with 2x2 photo (Mon-Thurs only)
or e-mail at mpcgen@itextron.com

mandom philippines corporation
#92 New York cor. Oxford Street,
Cubao, Quezon City
Tel. 912-0365

INFORMATICS
COMPUTER INSTITUTE
CALOOCAN

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SALES & MARKETING ASSISTANT

College graduate, not more than 28 years old; Relevant work experience in sales or admin; Highly organized and can work with minimal supervision; Very good written and oral communication skills; proficient computer skills.

LECTURERS/IT TRAINING SPECIALISTS

Male or Female, not more than 28 years old; Graduate of BS Comp. Sci., Comp. Eng. or any IT related courses; Excellent academic record, previous teaching experience not required; Very good written & oral communication skills; Proficient knowledge in IT applications or any IT specialized field.

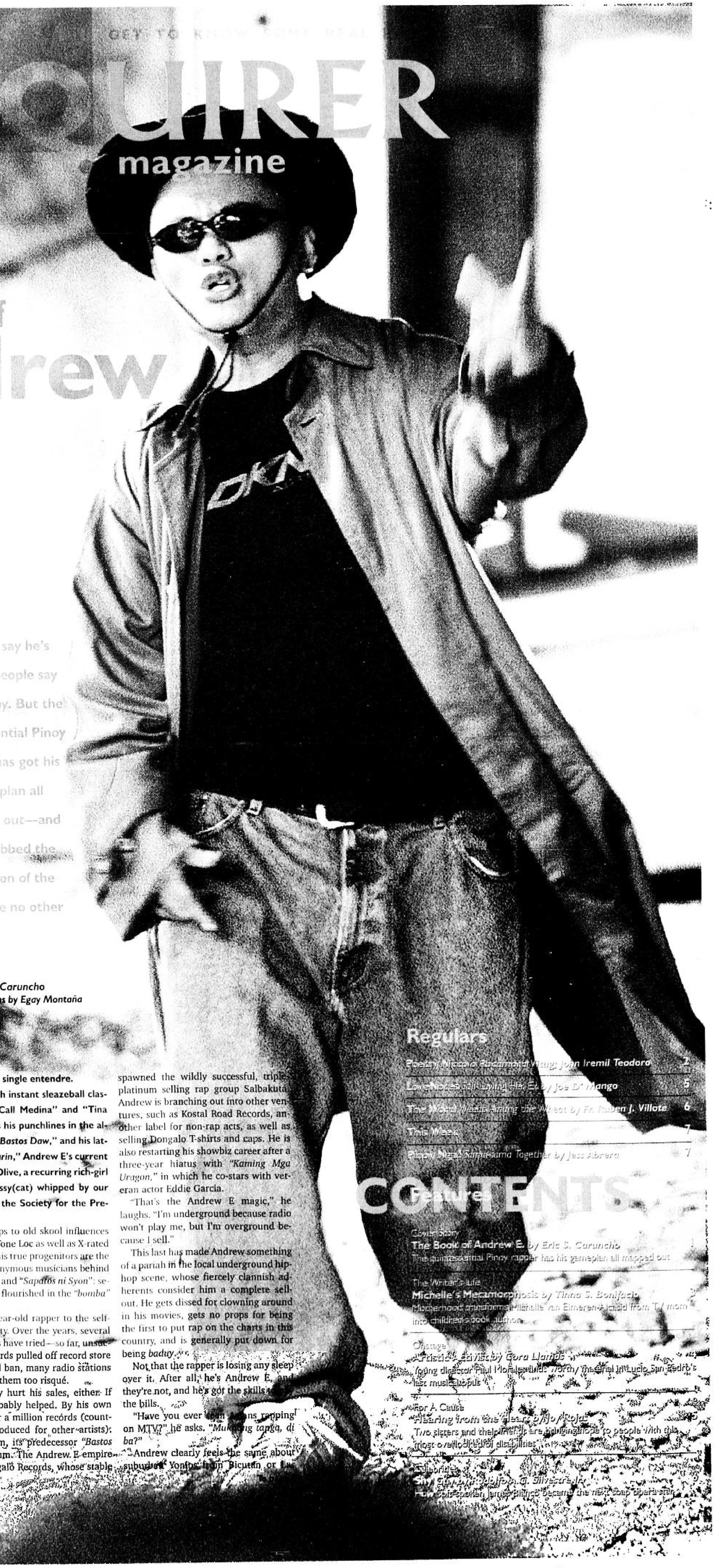
Please hand carry Resumé, Transcript with 2x2 picture to:

INFORMATICS BUILDING
#380 Rizal Ave., Caloocan City
Tel. 363-7010

GET TO KNOW SOME REAL

sunday INQUIRER magazine

July 21, 2002



The Book of Andrew E

People say he's sleazy, people say he's *baduy*. But the quintessential Pinoy rapper has got his gameplan all mapped out—and has grabbed the attention of the *masa* like no other

By Eric S. Caruncho
Photographs by Egay Montaña

ANDREW E is the master of the single entendre.

In case you don't get what such instant sleazeball classics as "Bini B. Rocha," "Gina Call Medina" and "Tina Moran" are about, he telegraphs his punchlines in the album titles: "Wholesome *Daw*," "*Bastos Daw*," and his latest salvo, "*Porno Daw*." "*Sinabmarin*," Andrew E's current single off "*Porno Daw*," features Olive, a recurring rich-girl fantasy figure, who gets her pussy(cat) whipped by our lowbrow hero—somebody alert the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

As a rapper, Andrew gives props to old skool influences such as Run DMC, LL Cool J and Tone Loc as well as X-rated rappers 2Live Crew. But in a way his true progenitors are the likes of Boy Solomon and the anonymous musicians behind "*Pinagbigyan*," "*Saging Ni* Pacing" and "*Sapatos ni Syon*": semi-legitimate bawdy records that flourished in the "*bomba*" era during the early '70s.

This hasn't endeared the 34-year-old rapper to the self-styled guardians of public morality. Over the years, several concerned individuals and groups have tried—so far, unsuccessfully—to get Andrew E's records pulled off record store shelves. While there is no official ban, many radio stations will not play his songs, deeming them too risqué.

But controversy hasn't exactly hurt his sales, either. If anything, the free publicity probably helped. By his own reckoning, Andrew has sold over a million records (counting songs he has written or produced for other artists): "*Porno Daw*" is nearing platinum, its predecessor "*Bastos Daw*" has sold quadruple platinum. The Andrew E empire [illegible] his own rap label, Dongalo Records, whose stable spawned the wildly successful, triple-platinum selling rap group Salbakuta. Andrew is branching out into other ventures, such as Kostal Road Records, another label for non-rap acts, as well as selling Dongalo T-shirts and caps. He is also restarting his showbiz career after a three-year hiatus with "*Kaming Mga Uragon*," in which he co-stars with veteran actor Eddie Garcia.

"That's the Andrew E magic," he laughs. "I'm underground because radio won't play me, but I'm overground because I sell."

This last has made Andrew something of a pariah in the local underground hip-hop scene, whose fiercely clannish adherents consider him a complete sell-out. He gets dissed for clowning around in his movies, gets no props for being the first to put rap on the charts in this country, and is generally put down for being *baduy*.

Not that the rapper is losing any sleep over it. After all, he's Andrew E, and they're not, and he's got the skills [illegible] the bills.

"Have you ever seen Asians rapping on MTV?" he asks. "*Mukhang tanga, di ba?*"

Andrew clearly feels the same about suburban Yonips from Bicutan, or the

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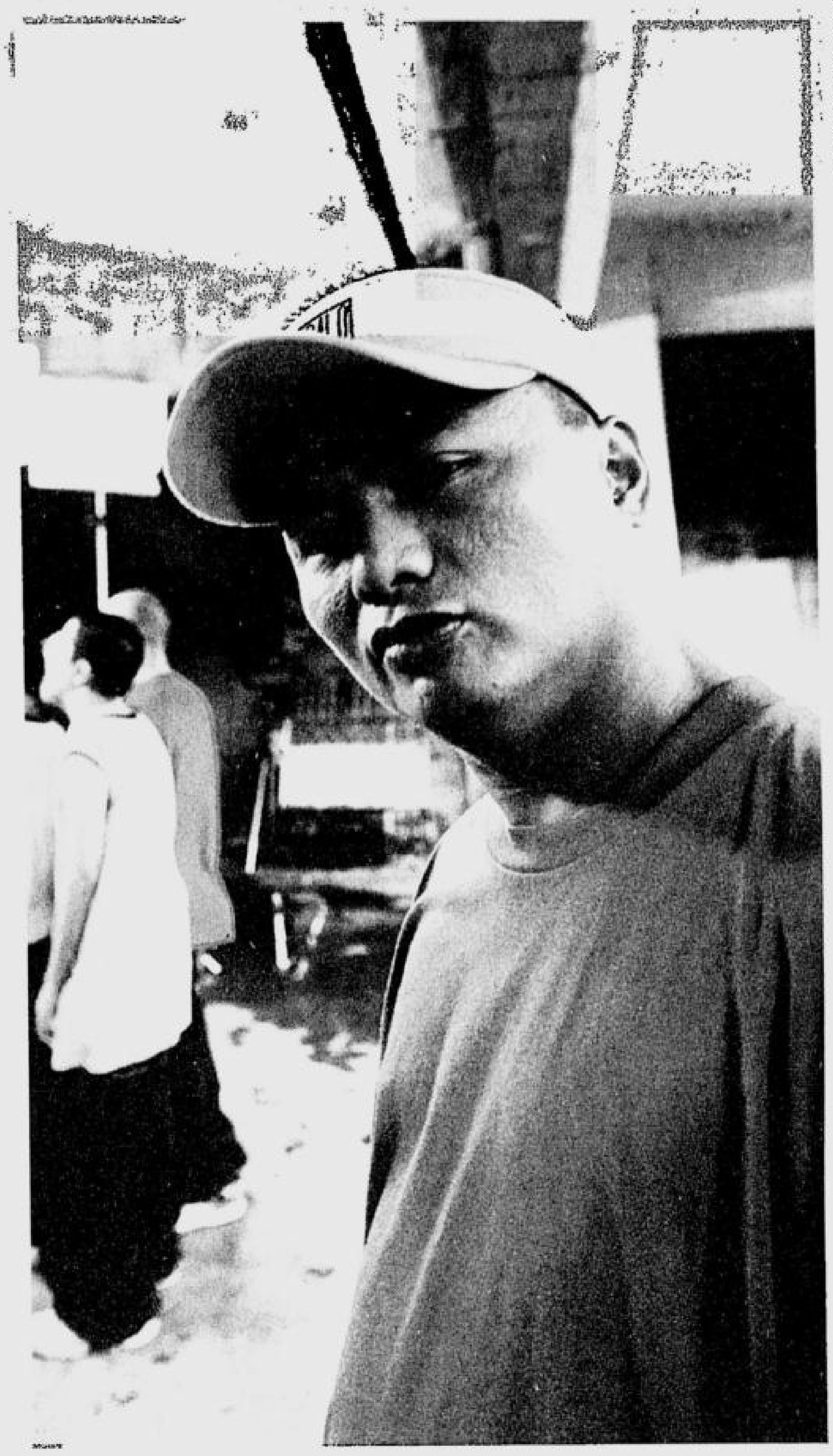
BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Be yo'-self: Andrew E on location



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Piñas, yo-ing and y'all-ing, and generally trying to sound like they're from Brooklyn or Compton. If they want Filipinos to listen to them—and more importantly, buy their records —Andrew believes common sense dictates they rap in Filipino.

"For as long as they do not agree with me, there will be no money for them," says Andrew of these hip-hop purists. "Why? Because Filipinos give money only to Andrew because Andrew is the only thing they understand. *Hindi sila kayang sipsipin, masyado kasi silang malagkit.* Never *naman nila gagayahin si* Andrew *kasi para sa kanila, baduy si* Andrew. *Isang barkong* pride *ang lulunukin nila kung gagayahin nila si* Andrew. *Kaya ang* magic word *d'yan, tiis na lang sila* (You can't suck them in, they're too thick. But they'll never copy Andrew E, because they think he's *baduy*. They'll have to swallow a boat-ful of pride before they copy me. So they'll just have to suffer.)"

In conversation, Andrew likes to refer to himself in the third person, often asking himself his own questions: "'Drew, *bakit mo nasabi 'yon*?" "'Drew, *ano'ng ibig mong sabihin*? ('Drew, why did you say that? What did you mean?)" He also likes to draw helpful diagrams on his everpresent notepad, like a teacher on a blackboard. When it comes to getting his point across, after 11 years, the man has it down to a science. He even has a formula for success all worked out: he calls it the 10 Commandments of Andrew.

"The first commandment is: Always do something that other people are afraid to do.

"The second commandment is: Never do something that people have already done."

"The third commandment is: If you do copy, make sure that your copy is better than the original."

"The fourth commandment is: Always step on the right side of the truth."

"The fifth commandment is: Always say it from the heart."

"The sixth commandment is: Anything you do has to have a high level of curiosity. Even before the listener opens your CD or tape, from the title alone there is already the urge to listen to you."

"The seventh commandment is: Always have a stone for every kind of bird. If there are 60 million Filipinos, you need 60 million stones to hit them with." In short, there should be something for everyone in your album.

"The eighth commandment is: Make sure that even if you present the negative, the listener gets something positive out of it."

"The ninth commandment is: Whatever you do, always stay on the ground and be yourself."

"The tenth commandment is: Never make the readers read you."

Meaning don't let the bastards grind you down. If anything, Andrew's 10 commandments distill hard lessons learned at an early age on the streets of Dongalo, Parañaque where he grew up in a typical low-income family.

"Five years old *pa lang ako*—would you believe —*nagjee*-jeep *na ako mag-isa*. (I was taking the jeep by myself.) As early as six years old," he adds in Filipino, "I would stand beside the people begging on the streets to observe who gave money and who didn't, and why.

"I've been with the rich and the ultra-rich, the poor and the ultra-poor. I've been with good people and the worst scum. I've talked to children as young as three or four and old people who can barely open their eyes anymore. I've eaten with them, slept with them, walked the streets with them. *Ano pa ang maitatago sa akin ng Pilipinas?* (What else can the Philippines keep from me?)"

This awareness of the yawning gulf between the upper crust and the teeming masses informs Andrew's songs. A recurring theme is rich girls who give it up for the virile prole hero, something which obviously strikes a chord with Andrew's largely *masa* audience.

All this, Andrew firmly believes, was pre-ordained. As a high school kid, Andrew was into break-dancing. Nobody called it hip-hop then. His first exposure to rap was a Run DMC tape given him by a friend, who just happened to be the American ambassador's son. But he didn't "get it," until he saw a black American serviceman in Olongapo actually doing it, making up lyrics on the spot. Andrew started writing lyrics in 1985, but it wasn't until 1990 that the Higher Powers intervened. Or so Andrew's sense of the mythic would have it.

He had dropped out of college and was eking out a living of sorts as a club DJ in Euphoria when a letter arrived in the mail: It was an invitation to take a test at the Subic Naval Base for eligibility in the US Navy. Out of the blue, a last chance at a better future.

Andrew's heart sank when he learned that only 20 out of 800 applicants would make it, and he wasn't on the list.

"On the way out of the examination room, I stopped at the doorway and prayed 'Lord, when I step out of this door, I'm leaving it up to you because I don't know what the future will bring.'"

On the way back to his hotel room, Andrew was walking up a flight of stairs. A drunk was sprawled flat on his back in the middle. At the top of the stairs, a black American GI was walking down with a bar girl. The four met in the middle and passed each other. Suddenly, the drunk roused himself, slapped Andrew on the ankle, and proclaimed: "'*T--na! Tingnan mo 'yung negro, humanap ng panget*! (Look at the black guy, he found an ugly one!)"

Zoom! Back in his room, Andrew grabbed paper and pen, and even before his bus had reached Manila, he had written "*Humanap Ka Ng Panget*," the rap on which the Andrew E empire was built.

"This is why I know that this rap of mine, the Andrew E name, is God-given," he proclaims. "It took this wonderful chain of events, over five years: the exam, the hotel, the drunk on the stairs, the GI and the bar girl, to get me to where I am today."

Until today, though, Andrew E says he still wonders how his name came to be on a list of applicants to the US Navy. He never applied.

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The Cover Image Quintessential Pinoy rapper Andrew E has his gameplan all mapped out
Photograph by Egay Montaña

Poetry

Hot Chocolate

When we finally sensed
That the silence
Had swallowed us,

You decided to prepare
Old-fashioned
Hot chocolate.

You scooped three spoonfuls
From your mixture
Of ground peanuts and *Antonio Pueo*.

Using your *batirol*,
You blended them slowly
With the simmering water.

I stood beside you,
Observing the bubbles
Crumbling each brown mountain.

We recalled
How we used to play
At the beach:

I sat on the sand, waiting
For the waves to kiss the shore
And soak my feet

While you built castle walls,
Lining mounds of sand as the breeze
Swayed your nape-length hair.

The steam stung my cheeks.
I turned away. You wiped
The sweat on your brow.

I have returned
To mend the ties you broke
After I had whispered

That I wished to be the prince
Who would build you palaces,
Moonbathe on the grass with you.

Your voice quivered:
"I was wrong."

As the warm
Bitter-sweetness
Filled our mouths,

The crushed peanuts
Almost melted
On our tongues.

Niccolo Rocamora Vitug

Lila ang Kulay ng Pag-ibig

Nagkukulay-lila ang kalangitan
at ang Look ng Honda
kapag gumuguhit ang kidlat
sa gintaipan
habang nag-uusap tayo rito
sa balkonahe
ng nirerentahan nating kamalig.

Sansaglit lamang,
sansaglit na nagiging perpekto
ang daigdig
kapag nagiging lila
ang buong paligid!

Lila kaya ang kulay ng pag-ibig
kahit puno ito ng ligalig?

Ayan, kumikidlat na naman!
Napansin mo ba
na parang sementadong sahig
ang dagat?
Walang ka-alon-alon ang look,
napunta yata lahat
sa aking dibdib.

Halika,
isayaw mo ako
upang mapahupa
itong mga dambuhalang alon
sa aking kaibuturan.
Buong magdamag tayong sasayaw
sa saliw ng kulay-lila na musika
ng kalikasan.

John Iremil Teodoro

The **Sunday Inquirer Magazine** accepts contributions for our regular poetry section. Interested contributors should send a printed copy of the poem (which may be in English or Filipino) together with a self-addressed stamped envelope to Ruel S. De Vera, poetry editor, Sunday Inquirer Magazine, Chino Roces (formerly Pasong Tamo) corner Mascardo and Yague Streets, Makati City 1263, or e-mail to <sim@inquirer.com.ph>

The Writer's Life
By Tinna S. Bonifacio

Michelle's Metamorphosis

Motherhood transforms Michelle van Eimeren-Alcasid from TV mom into children's book author

Michelle with daughter Leila

IM GUIAO PUNZALAN

"CLARISSA looked at each of her brothers and sisters, and seeing that they too were beautiful, said, 'The world can be scary if you're not ready for the journey, everyone I met has their own path to follow, for something special awaits us all. I now know I was in too much of a hurry to see everything, although it wasn't time for me. I understand that we should just enjoy the moment because it only happens once, and all good things come in time.'"

Two years ago, Michelle van Eimeren decided to cut short her television career, quitting the mid-morning show "Brunch with Bing and Michelle," which she was co-hosting with Bing Loyzaga.

Back then, Michelle only had one child, daughter Leila. And like most working moms, Michelle felt her job took so much time away from her daughter. Because "Brunch" was a daily show, Michelle would leave the house at 7 a.m., be at the studio by 8 a.m., and return home around 12 noon or shortly after lunch, when her daughter would be taking a nap. As a consequence, Michelle missed so many of Leila's precious growing-up moments.

"I quit the show because I wanted to be more of a mom to Leila," explains Michelle, now pregnant with her second child by her husband, singer, songwriter, and TV host Ogie Alcasid. "Leila was only six months old when I started doing 'Brunch.' It was a daily show, so I was away a lot and felt I missed so much of her growing. All of a sudden, my child was growing up and not needing me as much. It was scary! The show was getting in the way of my being a mom. That's when I decided to leave."

But leaving the show was not that easy. After quitting, Michelle began to feel some strange emotions. "I felt upset and stressed," she recalls. "I was having mixed emotions about where I was going and what I was going to do." She tried getting into pottery, which helped. Then Michelle rediscovered something she had loved as a child—telling stories. An only child, Michelle kept herself entertained by making up stories about various creatures, from giants to butterflies. Needing another outlet for self-expression at this time in her life, Michelle sat down at her computer and started writing again.

"I used to write stories when I was younger," she relates. "I'm an only child, and my mom was a nurse. Sometimes, she'd work double shifts at the hospital and she'd be so tired. She needed her sleep. So I wouldn't disturb her, I'd have the TV on without sound. I would watch the pictures, and make up stories of my own to go with them."

One of those stories has left the realm of imagination to become the first work of Michelle van Eimeren-Alcasid, author. Illustrated by UP Fine Arts graduate Fernando Escora, "Butterfly" is the story of a caterpillar named Clarissa (inspired by Michelle's daughter Leila) who sets out on her own journey of self-discovery. In the process, Clarissa realizes that each creature—yes, even a caterpillar like herself—has its own time for blooming, and that it must not be hastened, nor must it be held back. The book comes in paperbound and hardbound editions and is published by Universal Publishing. The book comes with a free VCD of Michelle reading the story to Leila. "Butterfly" was a family project, with Ogie writing the theme song. Michelle even did all the voices of the creatures Clarissa meets herself! On the VCD, you have Michelle's voice giving life to everything from birds, to fellow caterpillars, termites, Harold the Snail, Ruben the Frog, and Penny the little girl. It is the seven-year-old Penny who catches Clarissa and takes care of her until she fulfills her potential and becomes a beautiful butterfly.

Why a story about butterflies? "I love butterflies. They go through so many stages in their life, and it's the same with children. I wrote this book for my daughter, as a way of telling her to enjoy her moment. I wanted to remind Leila to appreciate the little things in life, because we always miss the good stuff when we're in a hurry to live life. And she's growing up so fast!" says Michelle.

Michelle had no intentions of becoming a published author when she wrote

To page 7

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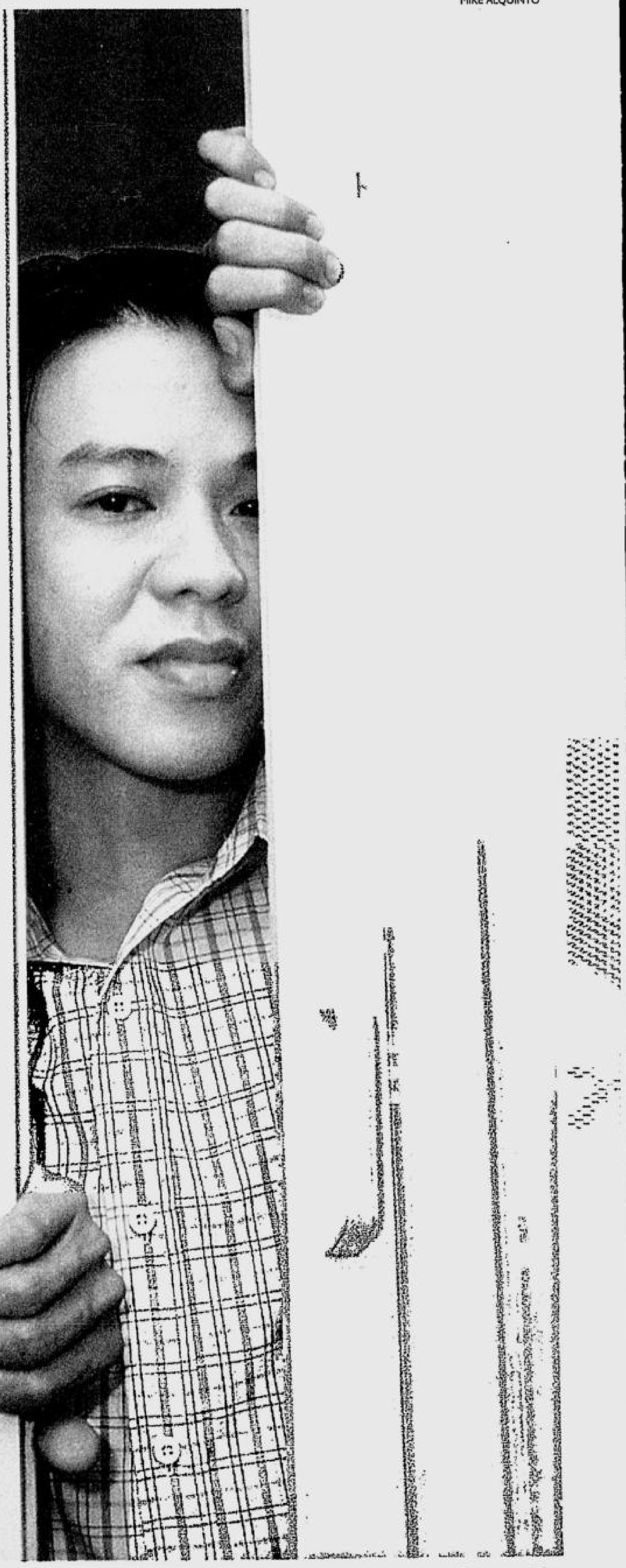
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
News that makes a difference.

Onstage
By Cora Llamas

Artistic Activist

Young director Paul Morales combines a strong sense of nationalism with performance flair, and finds the worthiest of materials in Lucio San Pedro's last musical opus


MIKE ALQUINTO

PAUL Morales is probably the best-kept secret in Philippine theater—or at least, from the mainstream audience. His name may not immediately ring a bell with the crowds who frequent Broadway musicals. However, those who do venture out to the indie cafes, fringe clubs and campuses, especially UP, immediately know the name of a dancer and director who has made the bending of boundaries a delightful spectacle.

Under his wing, theater leaves its confines to marry kindred arts in film and dance. In plays like the much acclaimed "*Bilog,*" for instance, the audience's auditory and visual experiences are transported and challenged along with their minds.

"I won't mind having a lot of people watch my plays," the thirtysomething Morales says with a grin when informed of his reputation. "But I do realize that theater is a middle-class luxury. In Dulaang Talyer (the company of which he is artistic director), doing theater almost always means never making money; sometimes, we break even. We're doing it as an artistic exercise. I hope and pray that, at some point, the commercial and artistic will meet. People have to eat."

All too true, but will he ever helm foreign mainstream one of these days? He begins to count on his fingers as an answer. "In Manila, the only groups doing original Filipino plays are Talyer, PETA, Tanghalang Pilipino and Musikat. Plays of companies like Repertory Philippines and Trumpets make more money. If only a few groups do Filipino plays, it might stunt the development of original Filipino theater."

But, he acknowledges, "The other productions are also important. They have their place in Philippine theater." A closer look at his resume reveals that Paul did his share years ago, directing segments of "West Side Story," "Phantom of the Opera," "Fiddler on the Roof," "Evita," "Camelot," "Sound of Music," etc. for Performing Arts International.

The young nationalist who used to act in anti-Marcos protest plays in the streets of Mendiola and Lawton, at the risk of life and limb, has mellowed, by his own admission. "Then, in the nationalist theater movement, art was not regarded as neutral. You had to make a stand, especially against the status quo. And you had to fit your art work into a certain framework which comes from a formulation and analysis."

The change came after the dictatorship fell in 1986. "Post-EDSA One has been an opening up of the issues. Because sometimes, in focusing on just the message, you disregard more personal issues and smaller concerns."

The paradigms may have undergone a transformation, but Paul's sense of nationalism remains strong as ever. In the early '90s, a scholarship to study dance in London left him "cold and grey." Centuries of theatrical and performance traditions—not to mention potentially lucrative employment—held no allure. "The culture was very rich, we can aspire for a little bit of that," he says, the appreciation still evident in his voice. "But I came back because I wanted to do more theater, which I would never do much of in England. Or if I did, it would not be *my* culture."

His roots of patriotism run deep. Years before yellow confetti rained on the business districts, the pre-adolescent Paul and his cousins were singing "*Bayan Ko.*" The director's dad is none other than Horacio "Boy" Morales Jr., stalwart Marcos foe, erstwhile political detainee and leftist leader, and secretary of the Department of Agrarian Reform during the Estrada administration.

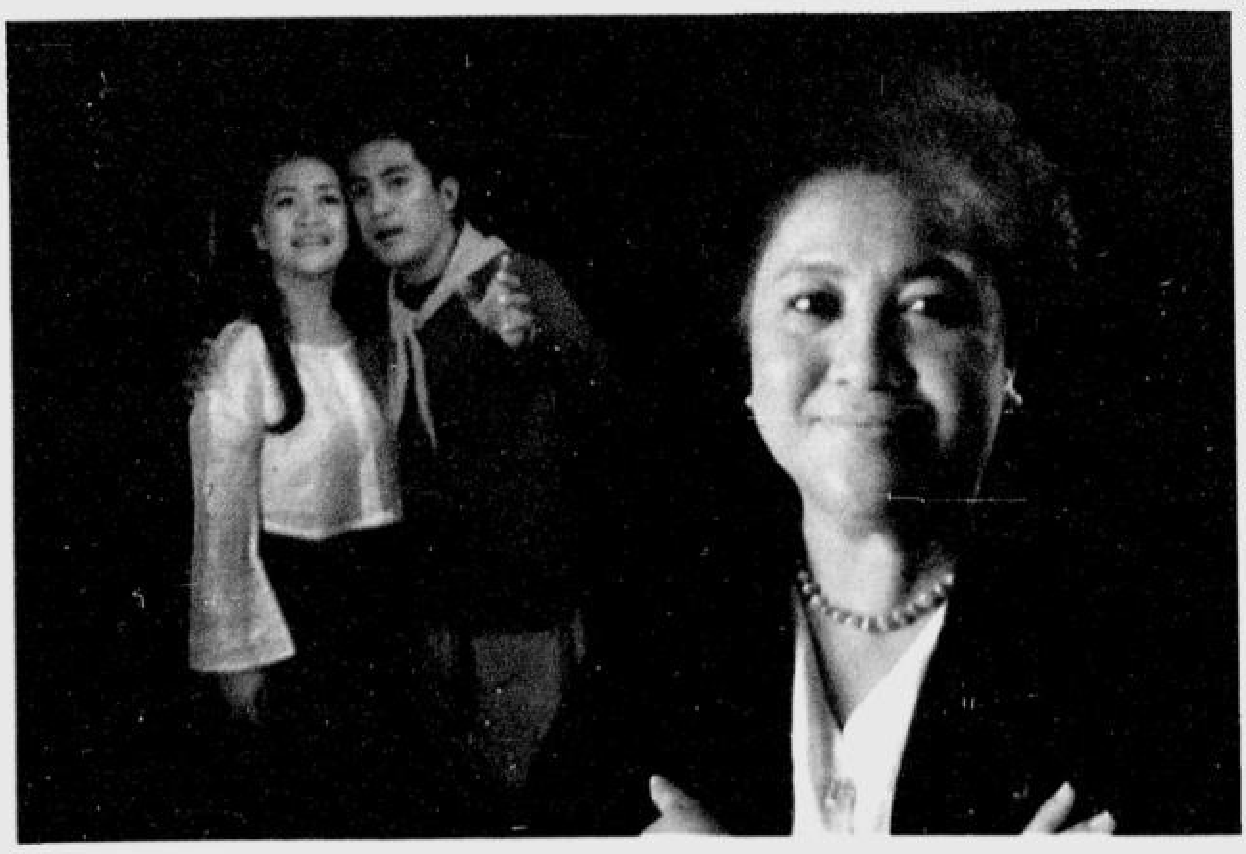
"In our childhood, my cousins and I were like little red cartels of Mao Tse Tung," he grins at the memory. "My dad would sit us down and talk about Philippine history." The Morales family would actually live through an important part of it, also known as the First Quarter Storm.

Small wonder that Morales loves history with a passion. The 1896 Revolution and its heroes are among his "preoccupations" right now. The director has gone beyond reading history books to perusing primary, little-known sources. What he is slowly beginning to piece together just might rock the foundations of present historical sacred altars, on such controversies as the pacifist Rizal's non-support of Bonifacio's violent revolution.

A few tantalizing bits of his research might be seen in Paul's new directorial effort, opening next week at the UP Theater and later the Cultural Center of the Philippines. "*Bayan, Isang Paa Na Lamang*" is a unique collaboration between socio-anthropologist Melba Maggay and the late National Artist Lucio D. San Pedro, and will show the revolution through the eyes of the common Katipunero.

It will also establish the unbreakable connection between two vital revolutions: the Katipunan's in 1896 and EDSA in 1986.

The production is a *zarzuela*, "not a history lesson," Paul says. "But I do want people to come out of it wanting to read about history."


Scenes from "Bayan...", Lucio San Pedro's last opus: Actors Deeda Barreto and Robert Seña and the award-winning librettist Dr. Melba Padilla Maggay

Yet, the ultimate reward of doing "*Bayan*" comes from artistic, and not necessarily historical, reverence. The *zarzuela* is the last great work of a monumental Filipino composer. Paul enthuses. "It has 17 new songs by the National Artist in his last piece. It has heart and aspiration and *is* very nationalistic."

There are other battles that Paul still fights. One of them is for gays and their rights. Paul was among the first to come out on TV about his homosexuality and march in the very first Gay Pride ("I can't even remember when; that was a long time ago"). While there seems to be much more acceptance now than 10 years ago, Paul bemoans that "there's still a lot of hypocrisy," referring to some film actors, politicians, and other celebrities widely regarded to be closet gays.

His own family and some of his significant others had a hard time when he went public during his college years. His mom warned him of a future of abuse, loneliness and childlessness. Fortunately, he laughs, the pressure lifted when his sister and half-brother started to have their own kids.

It was his father's silent acceptance that surprised him. "He never spoke to me about it. He would just ask about my partner." (The latter is out of the country, and that's all that Paul will say about him.)

"In a sense, my dad broke the mold. He's a corps commander in UP, a Vanguard at that, he was very high in government—but what he did show me as a boy is that other issues are more important.

Important enough to make a stand for. Sometimes even the fruits of hard effort can threaten to turn sour, if one were not careful. While grateful for the open-mindedness of today's younger generation, Paul is concerned that it can encourage excuses. "There's this shadow of everybody trying to be bisexual. On one hand, I agree. Sexuality is very fluid. It has this broad range that spans from pure heterosexuality to pure homosexuality and the degrees in-between. I myself have been attracted to women a little bit.

"But yet it can be a skirting of the issue. Because if you say you're gay, you make a stand. But if you say you're bi, you come out very in, very trendy."

Every generation has its revolution, political, sexual or otherwise. What if this is Gen-X's? It's all very fine, but Paul remains passionate that certain things should not get lost in the mayhem as the young soldiers grope for their dog tags.

"We're still a long way from basic respect for each other. The things that we make fun of are the things that we are uncomfortable and not familiar with: *bakla, tomboy, mataba, instik, maitim, kulot*. It's a matter of realizing that we are all people with the same concerns, rights, dreams."

Spoken like a true advocate, an erstwhile political science student who has found an arena in the stage—and is getting noticed for the impact.

"Bayan, Isang Paa Na Lamang," *music by Lucio San Pedro and libretto by Dr. Melba P. Maggay, will run at the UP Theater on July 25-27 and August 3 at the CCP Main Theater. Call ISACC at 921-4523 and 922-9420.*

For A Cause

By Joy Rojas

Photographs by August dela Cruz

Hearing with the Heart

Hands that speak: Carol and Marie Ui

IF AN unspoken rule exists between sisters Carol and Marie Ui, it's probably a pact to stick together. Born 19 months apart, they were classmates in the same course (business administration), graduated the same year with honors, and discovered their true calling after visiting a hearing-impaired cousin in a deaf school at Miriam College. Upon learning sign language, they joined the school, first as teachers and then as part of its administration (Marie was academic director while Carol served as executive director and principal).

Raffy Reloza works with a young student

Through a center that works to bring deaf people back into the mainstream, two sisters and their friends are bringing hope to people with this most overlooked disabilities

The Uis stayed with the school for 14 years, but it was off-campus where they each experienced epiphany. To appease their father, Marie went on leave from the school twice to work for a garment factory in Manila and then a company in Hong Kong. "It was financially rewarding," recalls Marie, "but seeing the deaf students learn and graduate was more fulfilling." For Carol, heading November 2000's Deaf Awareness Week brought her to "the turning point of my life. The event was under a federation of 25 agencies for the deaf. But what was really striking was that we were able to get hearing people from different fields involved. This big celebration made me realize that this was the career for me."

These days, the sisters continue their cause through the Link Center for the Deaf (telephone 426-0382), a non-stock, non-profit organization founded by the Uis and fellow advocates Pia Reyes and Raffy Reloza. A wide range of services prepare the deaf for what could be a productive and enriching life in our hearing world. The center's sign language course is the first to be accredited and certified by the Philippine Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf. Deaf counseling not only addresses issues encountered by families and caregivers of the deaf, it also gives the deaf a chance to express themselves and seek advice on personal matters. Tutorials help the deaf cope with subjects from their mainstream schools. Link also refers parents to a suitable doctor or school for their child, and is in the process of offering other valuable services like speech therapy, a library, and psychological tests for the deaf.

Of all the physical disabilities, deafness, says Carol, is the most overlooked "because it is not a visible handicap. So it doesn't get much attention. It's really a difficult disability because language is involved." Indeed, if the deaf could "speak," they would surprise us hearing people with a number of little-known facts. "First of all, it's a myth that you can't speak when you're deaf," informs Marie. "Deafness means the inability to hear, not the inability to speak. Early intervention through speech therapy can enable even the profoundly deaf to speak as intelligently as the hearing." The term "deaf and dumb" is another misnomer. "Whenever people come across a deaf person, they usually ask, 'Can they write? Can they read?'" observes Carol. "A lot of them are very smart. To be able to attend college and an M.A. program, they certainly cannot be dumb."

But the most alarming fact of all is the high incidence of deafness in this country. In 1995, the National Statistics Office Registry revealed that out of 919,292 disabled persons, 115,375 (or 12 percent) are hearing-impaired. In 1997, a partial report conducted by the Department of Health in collaboration with other government agencies showed that 17 percent of the 529,345 enlisted persons with disabilities are deaf.

Though the challenges persist, the deaf may have finally found their voice in Link. Since opening last April 1, the Center has already launched a Sign Language Club wherein gradeschoolers from the Ateneo and Miriam interact regularly with deaf kids from public schools. "I think their greatest problem is that they're misunderstood, not only by their hearing family members but by their peers," says Pia, a former guidance counselor for the deaf. "And from my experience, a lot of the deaf I've worked with come from sheltered homes. But the objective is to be able to mainstream them, so exposure to the hearing community is necessary."

Understanding and awareness from our end are also key. As a teacher for hearing students (he teaches psychology at Miriam and the basics in his pre-school LEAP), Raffy relies on equal parts creativity and sensitivity when dealing with the deaf. "You have to get their attention when you want to speak to them, you can't have a big class, and you have to simplify certain words that you sign." Now sharing the Center's counseling duties with Pia, Raffy is eager to communicate with kids using such visual techniques as art and play therapy. "It's so much easier to teach the hearing," he admits. "But teaching the deaf is extremely rewarding."

As for the sisters Ui, the bond remains closer than ever: Rarely seen apart, they've taken to signing instead of talking to each other on many occasions. Despite their differences in character and strength ("I'm the talker, she's the doer," describes the extrovert Carol of the reserved Marie), the two cannot help but speak highly of the other. "She's always been there to back me up and support me all the way," smiles Marie of her sister, the eldest in a brood of four. "It has always been a tandem," emphasizes Carol of the solid partnership. "That's why we came up with this center. We shared the same vision."

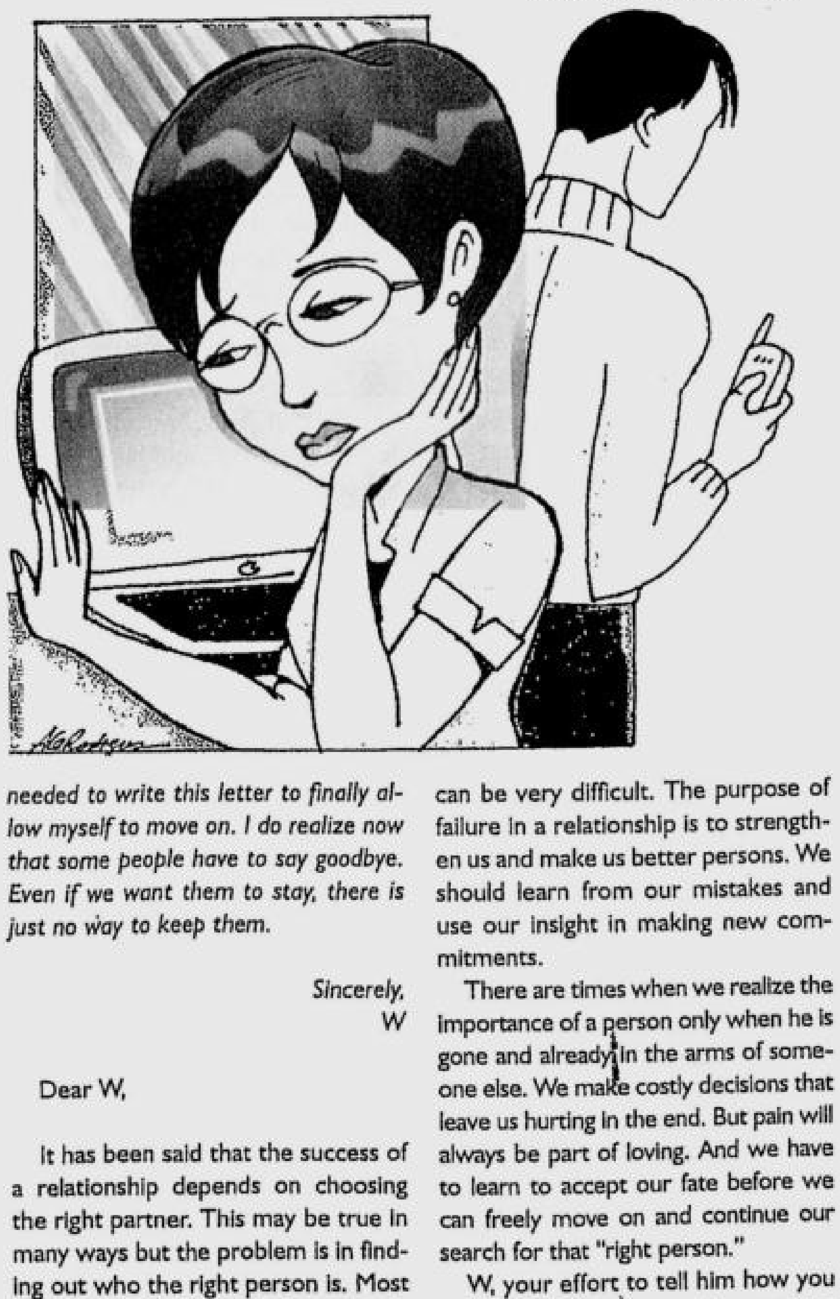
LoveNotes

By Joe D' Mango

Still Loving Her Ex

We saw each other and it was then that I realized that I had made a very big mistake in letting go of this guy who gave so much to me. I felt confused. I knew he was currently happy with his new girlfriend in the States

Illustration by ALBERT RODRIGUEZ



THIS is not my first time to write you. Five years ago, I told you about my ex-boyfriend and all I learned from my failed relationship. I was too young and asked for more than what he could give me. But a lot has happened since then.

I fell in love again, but this time resolving to make this new relationship work, to give more of myself to the other person. But he turned out to be unworthy of the love I offered. It took me a long time to realize this and when I finally did, I decided to stay away and start anew.

It was at this time that I looked back at my life and remembered again my first boyfriend who, despite all my shortcomings then, truly loved me. Yes, he cared for me then, giving more than expected, giving more that I could offer him. It was at this time that I felt regret. Regret because I remember, two years ago, when I was already very much in love with this new guy, he was trying to come back to my life. But I made a decision then, I wanted to give my relationship with this new guy a try. I was a little mean to my ex-boyfriend, telling our friends that I finally found Mr. Right in this new guy and that what I feel for him is very far from what I felt for my ex. I knew he heard this from our friends and that he got hurt because of what I said but I didn't care. I was too in love.

My ex-boyfriend is now in the States. Two months ago he returned for a vacation. Despite everything that happened, he still considered me a friend. We saw each other and it was then that I realized that I had made a very big mistake in letting go of this guy who gave so much to me. I felt confused. I knew he was currently happy with his new girlfriend in the States.

But I decided to take the risk. I e-mailed him and told him what I felt. I told him that after all these years, I realized, only one guy truly loved me and that's him. I told him I don't want to cause trouble because I know he's happy now with his new girl but I just have to say this or regret it for the rest of my life. I didn't know what I expected him to say but I just wanted to tell him what I felt.

In the end, though I told myself not to expect anything, what he said still hurts. He is very happy with her and he really thinks that she's the right girl for him and that she is the girl he wants to spend the rest of his life with. I cried then—for all the could-have-beens, all the regrets, all the memories. I didn't know what to tell him, but I eventually got the courage and maturity to wish him luck and ask if we could continue to be friends. I told him then that I will move on now, hoping one day that I will find somebody who will love me like he did.

June has just passed. It was our anniversary month. Joe, I needed to write this letter to finally allow myself to move on. I do realize now that some people have to say goodbye. Even if we want them to stay, there is just no way to keep them.

Sincerely,
W

Dear W,

It has been said that the success of a relationship depends on choosing the right partner. This may be true in many ways but the problem is in finding out who the right person is. Most of the time, it is revealed to us only when we are already deep into the relationship, when turning back is difficult, if not utterly painful.

Loving always involves a certain amount of risk. It offers no guarantee of permanence. Getting involved with someone is easy. But getting out of a relationship when we have already invested so much of our love and time can be very difficult. The purpose of failure in a relationship is to strengthen us and make us better persons. We should learn from our mistakes and use our insight in making new commitments.

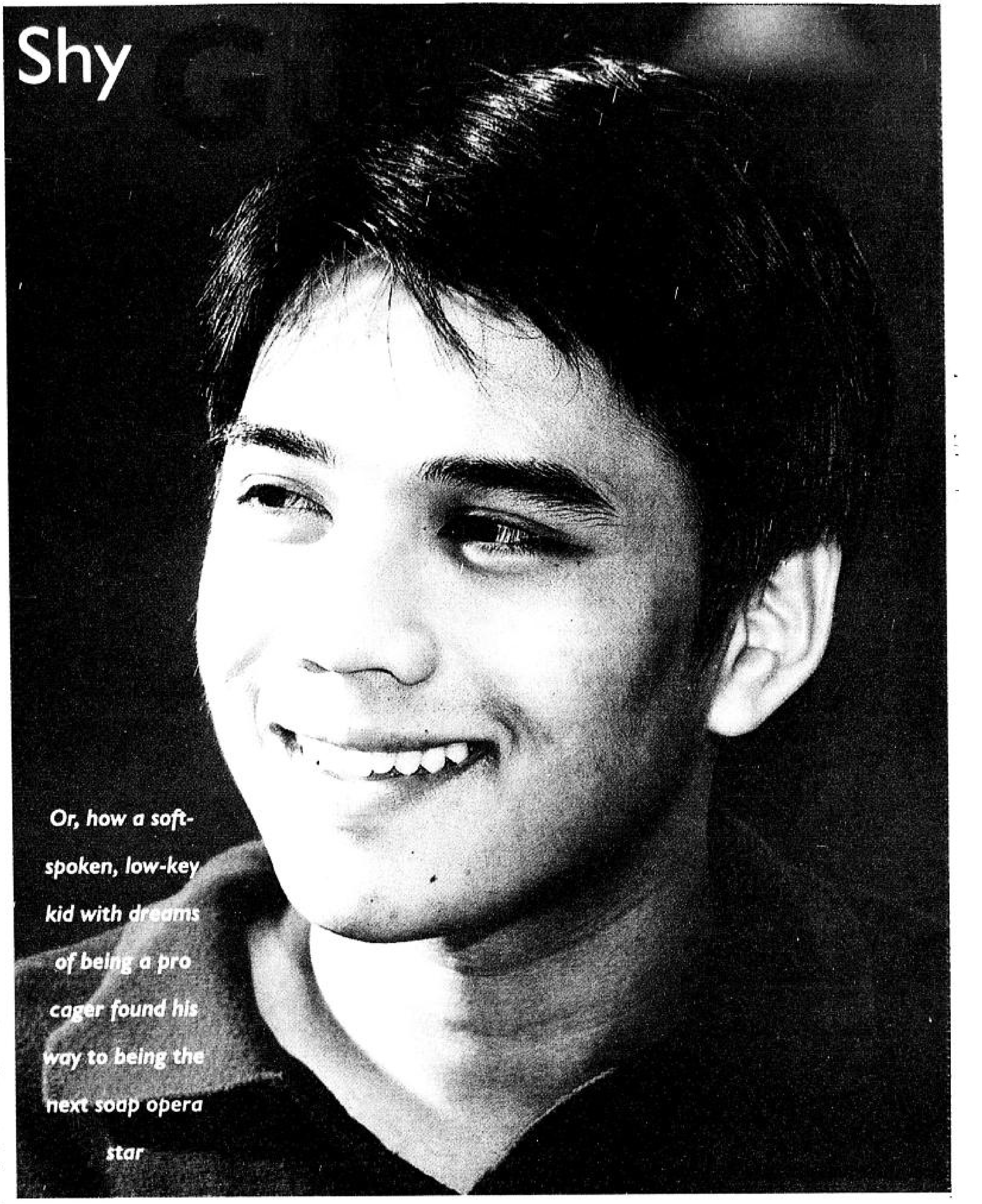
There are times when we realize the importance of a person only when he is gone and already in the arms of someone else. We make costly decisions that leave us hurting in the end. But pain will always be part of loving. And we have to learn to accept our fate before we can freely move on and continue our search for that "right person."

W, your effort to tell him how you truly felt without expecting anything in return marked the closure of this relationship. You have made the first step in doing the right thing. The last one involves letting go and moving on. Learn from this experience and let it be your guide in making a successful relationship—one that will last you a lifetime. Good luck, W, and God bless.

Celebrities

By Rodolfo A.G. Silvestre Jr.

Shy



AUGUST DELA CRUZ

Or, how a soft-spoken, low-key kid with dreams of being a pro cager found his way to being the next soap opera star

Everyone who now swoons over him first took notice of his good looks in the Lifebuoy commercial. He was the architecture student who needed a T-square. Not only did he look good. He also seemed like the boy we all know, the well-mannered chap whom everyone in the neighborhood admires.

That was James Blanco in the soap commercial that caught the attention of producers and directors. But the timid, lovable boy is also James Blanco Castillo Jr., the boy whom everyone in their Project 3 neighborhood, not too long ago, admired solely for his basketball skills. "I was actually aiming for the hard court," reveals James.

Showbiz, however, took a stronger hold on him. Today, he is Victor in the new Channel 7 Sunday afternoon soap, *"Kahit Kailan,"* which started airing May 5. On Mondays to Fridays in the evening, he is Joseph, the love interest of Angelika dela Cruz in *"Ikaw Lang ang Mamahalin."* In the latter, he is a yuppie bar owner. In the afternoon soap that finally took over from the slot of the long-running "Annakarenina," James is a *promdi* (from Tuguegarao, to be exact) who, as televiewers now know, presents himself to the Sanpindiante family with a letter from the dead patriarch. Victor cannot be turned away. He turns out to be the love child of one of the daughters-in-law of the patriarch. Besides, as the smart alecks would say, his lead role is crucial to the unfolding of the story.

At home, James is the second in a family of five children; it was his older brother whom neighbors were encouraging to enter showbiz. But it was Jun, or that's James for you, that a talent scout spotted while he was on his way home from school. "I was surprised. I wasn't only skinny, I was also dark-complexioned because I was always playing basketball," he recalls. "But why not, I told myself. The next thing I knew, I was on a commercial promoting a T-shirt. But it was shown in Vietnam, not here."

Meantime, he continued playing basketball both in school, at the National College of Business Administration where he was majoring in Marketing. At the same time, he made the rounds of colleges and universities, trying out for their Varsity teams. He was in a quandary. Showbiz beckoned and yet, how could he forsake his first love, basketball? He was, after all, a promising 5'11" pointguard.

But the answer would come by way of a call. Another talent scout had spotted his photograph from the files of an ad agency, and he cast James for a Rexona deodorant commercial. A week after, the scout brought him to Channel 7, and that's how he clinched a part in the Saturday afternoon teen series, "Click."

Other commercials would come, including one for Talk and Text where he played supporting role to the late Rico Yan. And then came the Lifebuoy commercial that endeared him to televiewers.

Mother Lily took notice and gave him his first movie role in "Cool Dudes," in which he starred with Cogie Domingo and Danilo Barrios. "I was the *bagito* of the three, so I was not only nervous. I was also very shy," says James. "But I had fun. We did it for three months, and we were goofing around a lot, because the movie was wacky. Cogie and Danilo were so *kalog*, I felt at home with them."

The movie unfortunately suffered at the box office, despite expectations and all-out marketing support from Regal. "I thought that was it." But he was cast in the 2001 Metro Filmfest top-earner, *"Bahay ni Lola,"* which, of course, "encouraged me to keep going.

"I enjoyed shooting *'Bahay ni Lola'* because *Direk* Uro de la Cruz was very cool. If there were production problems, he left the staff to solve it. So, he was always preserving his energy, and that meant having more time for us."

For his role in *"Ikaw Lang ang Mamahalin," "Direk* Soxy takes time to explain things to me, the whole situation and all that is required to make the scene believable. He can be very patient."

In *"Kahit Kailan,"* where he appears with veteran actors, James admits to being timid, "so I just tell myself that this is part of the work, and since I'm at it, I might just as well do my best. I also observe them when they're acting, and I try to learn from them. Besides, we're all warming up to one another as one big family."

And being part of family life is one that James is used to. "Not much has really changed. Before, my schedule was basically home to school and back home. Now, it's home to work and back home. And I sleep a lot to make up for those tapings that extend all the way to the next day. But I also bond a lot with my siblings. When I can afford it, I buy things for them, but nothing very expensive."

James can be a loner whether at work or at home. "I tend to keep to myself. Maybe, it's because I was always self-conscious. I never really felt good-looking. When we're taping, I would eat by myself and my fellow actors would notice me. At home, *ganun rin ako.*"

When James received his first big salary, he bought a car. But not long after, it was carnapped. "I look at it philosophically. I was more devastated about losing my shoes than my car!"

Other things that interest James include jazz music and watching old movies. His favorite movie for all time is "What Lies Beneath," starring Harrison Ford and Michelle Pfeiffer. And he considers himself a fan of Mel Gibson because "he does justice to any role that is given him."

Isn't he afraid he'll catch that drug habit common among showbiz people? "No, because if I had wanted it then, as early as high school, I could easily have succumbed to the temptation. Some of my friends took or tried drugs, but I was not one to do something just for the sake of trying it. And so they left me alone."

He admits to "being a late bloomer, having had a girlfriend only when I was already 18 years old." For now, James has a "special someone, not from showbiz, with whom I go malling now and then. We also watch movies."

Marriage is, of course, still far from his mind, "but when that time comes, I want three or four children. I would want a wife who is, first of all, faithful. Next, *mabait*. And someone who would know how to relate well with my mother."

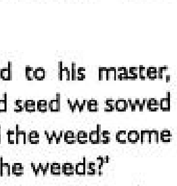
For now, it is showbiz that keeps him on his toes. When he's not taping, which is four days a week, he is out of town for shows and product promotional events. He also helps host GMA 7's Sunday noontime show, "SOP."

So far, he only has one distinction to his name, the Star Awards New TV Personality for 2001. "I thought that when people went up the stage and couldn't say a word, it was all part of acting. *Yun pala, totoo.* When my turn came, I could only utter a thank you."

James does not know exactly what kind of future he wants for himself in showbiz. "I'm not thinking about how my career should go, or what roles I should be playing. When I was new in showbiz and I was also hoping for a career in basketball, I went on a pilgrimage to Manaoag. I told God, 'Whatever it is you will give me, I will take good care of it.' It didn't take long before He gave me an answer. I got all my breaks in showbiz, and I am doing my best to deserve and keep this gift."

The Word

By Fr. Ruben J. Villote



Weeds Among the Wheat

Pulling out the weeds is an act of condemnation and judgment. Jesus, in the parable, is cautioning us against judging rashly and condemning outright the faith-life of those who do not believe and pray the way we do

"One of the servants said to his master, 'Master, was it not good seed we sowed in your field? Where did the weeds come from? ... Do you want us to pull out the weeds?'

'No,' the Master said, 'because if you gather the weeds, you might pull up some of the wheat along with them. Let the wheat and the weeds both grow together until the harvest time.'" (Mt. 13:24-30)

In the field of worship and spirituality, there has been, through the centuries, a parade of worship-forms and spiritualities—like seeds sown in our midst by various religious leaders and preachers, both Catholic and non-Catholic, apparently eclipsing and outshining one another.

We devotees belonging to various religious groups and churches felt disturbed, perhaps even threatened, by the sprouting of spiritual movements different from our own. We could almost hear ourselves repeating the bewildered questions of the servant in the parable: "Master, did we not sow good seed in your field? Do you want us to pull out the weeds?"

Pulling out the weeds is, of course, an act of condemnation and judgment. Jesus, in the parable, is cautioning us against judging rashly and condemning outright the faith-life of those who do not believe and pray the way we do. It is so easy for us to label the worship-forms of others as diabolical, idolatrous or colonial, escapist, etc.—and condemn the worshippers to hell. We play God by identifying at once who belong to His kingdom and who do not. We are in a hurry to tear down and uproot what we perceive as "weeds" without realizing that we might be destroying the wheat as well.

The parable teaches us to wait and see if the different spiritualities and liturgies, although strange to us, are producing good men and women—even saints—who have experienced conversion (metanoia) and kenosis (or emptying oneself of old prejudices and fears, freeing oneself from the inner structures of greed, arrogance and violence), and becoming living witnesses to the triumph, graciousness and justice of God through Jesus Christ (Col. 2:15). Conversion is a return to God and to one another in faith. It is the fruit of listening to the small voice of God in our hearts (solitude) and in our midst through one another (community). Conversion, Prayer and the Beatitudes are nonsectarian. They are not private properties of religious denominations and churches to be hoarded in tabernacles and temples but God's gifts to be shared by all. Who are we to judge if the spirituality and liturgy of the Roman Catholic Church or the Iglesia Ni Kristo or the Evangelical Churches or the Born-Again Christians, for example, are the wheat or the weeds? Meanwhile, can't we just be courteous, respectful, compassionate, forgiving and sincerely concerned about one another, and claim God's promise of new heavens and a new earth where His righteousness prevails?

What if we were concerned only about our own church/sect/cult? What if the other churches/sects/cults were likewise concerned only about their own? And what if the Evil One came on schedule to destroy us all? Who would be left alive and concerned enough to stand by us?

German theologian Martin Niemöller wrote in his journal: "When Hitler attacked the Jews, I was not a Jew, therefore, I was not concerned. And when Hitler attacked the Catholics, I was not a Catholic and, therefore, I was not concerned. Then, Hitler attacked me and the Protestant church, and there was nobody left to be concerned."

* * *

Remember my Marathon Pilgrimage of Thanksgiving (SIM, The Word, 19 May 2002)? Well, I am three months ahead of schedule. I thank my readers for responding promptly to my call for prayers and alms to sustain me in my journey. I have not stopped asking for spiritual support, of course, but please suspend material donations like used clothing, old toys, baby things like diapers, biscuits, candles and perishables—simply because we have just about enough to last until September. Our SIM readers just could not be outdone in generosity. And most of them have preferred to remain anonymous. But we have their names in our prayer-box and in our hearts, indelibly!

I have already visited Mary Johnston Hospital where I was born, thanks to nurse supervisor Ruth T. Abitong. I also did a personal pilgrimage to the Santo Niño in Tondo where I was baptized, thanks to Rev. Fr. Eric Santos; also to the parish priests of St. Joseph in Gagalangin, Tondo, and the Parish of the Hearts of Jesus and Mary, and the Ina ng Laging Saklolo in Punta, Sta. Ana.

Then off to Mexico, Pampanga June 22, thanks to Dr. Freddie Juco and his brother Raul for reintroducing me to my boyhood friends who had welcomed me during World War II as a refugee from the city. They are now in their late '60s and early '70s, all looking like my own lolos and lolas 69 years ago. It was a very therapeutic and "youthening" experience for one who had baptized parochial babies, who already have fast-growing babies themselves today

This Week

Art

Homoaestheticus: 2nd Edition, an installation of three sets of life-sized cast fiberglass figures representing the various forms of human communication by sculptor Gerardo Leonardo until July 30 at Galleria Duemila, SM Megamall A. For details, call 831-9990.

Impressions, recent paintings by Ramoncito Ocampo Cruz, opens July 25 at the Crucible Gallery, 4/F, SM Megamall A. Exhibit runs until Aug. 13.

Rebirthings, a sculpture exhibit by Agnes Arellano at Alliance Francaise de Manille Totalfinaelf Gallery until Aug. 2. For details, call 895-7585.

In the Eye of the Sun, Emmanuel "Butch" Garcia's second one-man show, opens July 25 at the Finale Art File, La O' Center, Makati Avenue cor. Pasay Road, Makati City. Exhibit runs until Aug. 10.

Butch Garcia's exhibit "In the Eye of the Sun"

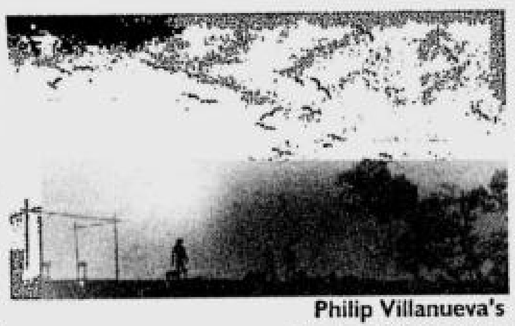
Mag-Ina, a back-to-back visual art exhibit of Tala Isla-Contreras and daughter Karlotta at Red Dot Gallery, Sunrise Terraces Condominium, 100 Perea St., Legaspi Village, Makati until Aug. 8. For details, call 816-2877.

Transmission, an exhibit of a painting and plaster casts based on Nona Garcia's photographs of abandoned cars, until July 28 at Finale Art Gallery, SM Megamall A.

Music

Classic guitarist Michael A. Dadap and his wife violinist Yeou-Cheng Ma Dadap and the Loboc Children's Choir of Bohol will perform in **An Intimate Evening—A Musical Concert for the Family** at the Cultural Center of the Philippines' Main Theater on July 28, 6 p.m. For tickets, call CCP Marketing at 832-3878 or Bravo Filipino Music Society at 725-3996.

Concert at the Park presents the University of Santo Tomas Symphony Band as it regales park audience with varied selections of favorite symphonic works today at 5 p.m. at the Rizal Park Open-Air Auditorium. Free admission.



Philip Villanueva's photo exhibit at the Negros Museum

Cinema

Vivement Dimanche, the story of Julien Vercel, the prime suspect in the murders of his wife and her lover. His secretary, Barbara, is convinced of his innocence and sets out to find the real murderer, only to discover a web of intrigue, July 24, 8 p.m. at Alliance Ondeo Auditorium, 209 Nicanor Garcia St., Bel-Air II Makati. Free admission. For details, call 895-7585.

***Antes que anochezca* (Before Night Falls)**, an episodic look at the life of Cuban poet and novelist Reinaldo Arenas (1943-1990) from his childhood in Oriente province to his death in New York City, July 27, 5 p.m. at Salon de Actos, Instituto Cervantes, 2515 Leon Guinto cor. Estrada Sts., Malate, Manila. For details, call 526-1482 to 85.

Onstage

Tick Tick Boom, a semi-autobiographical rock musical about an artist named Jonathan striving to write that one show that will redefine the landscape of musical theater, premieres at the RCBC Theater in Makati on July 26 and runs until Aug. 11. The musical stars Jet Pangan, Michael de Mesa and Bituin Escalante. For details, call Atlantis Productions at 892-7078.

Dramatis Personae presents a stage adaptation of Shinobu Hashimoto and Akira Kurosawa's classic, **Rashomon**, on July 21, 27, 28 and Aug. 4 at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. at the Pius XII Theater, Pius XII Catholic Center, UN Avenue, Manila. Tickets available at Ticketnet, all SM department stores, CCP Box office, Landmark Ticketron and The Podium in Ortigas Center. For inquiries, call 721-3178 and 722-4205.

Dramatis Personae's "Rashomon"

The Repertory Children's Theater production of the classic children's musical **Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs** runs every Saturday and Sunday at 10:30 a.m. until Dec. 15 at the William J. Shaw Theater, Shangri-La Plaza Mall. For details, call 633-4822 to 25 or email rep@broline.com.

Food

Take your pick from the freshest and tastiest sea bream specialties at Inaho Tei's **Hanadai Festival** at Edsa Shangri-La until July 28. For reservations, call 633-8888 ext. 2738.

Makati Shangri-La showcases the many facets of **Singaporean cuisine** with a lavish lunch and dinner buffet until July 30 at Island Café. The restaurant will be transformed into a Singaporean Hawker's Market and the buffet counter will be laden with the island nation's ethnic specialties. For inquiries, call 840-0884.

The Café restaurant at Dusit Hotel Nikko offers delightful food promotions this month. Daily buffet offers sumptuous spread of **international, Asian and Filipino breakfast, lunch and dinner buffets** with grilled seafood, sashimi and sushi. Also, delight in refreshing and free-flowing Four Seasons, Lemonade, Pandan Juice or Flavored Iced Tea available for lunch and dinner. For reservations, call 867-3333 ext. 3346.

New World Renaissance Hotel's chic restaurant Bocarinos presents the **Magic of the Greek Islands**, a culinary festival featuring the distinct and delicious food of this Mediterranean country until Aug. 3. Greek dishes such as Fresh Tuna and Tomato Stew, Greek Lamb Sausages with tomato sauce, Moussaka, as well as a Mezza Table selection is offered in the a la carte selection for lunch and dinner. For details, call 811-6888 ext. 3318.

Hold on to your UAAP tickets as **Don Henrico's** West Avenue and Malate join the fun of the most awaited collegiate level sport season. Ticket holders may present their UAAP tickets to their server to avail of the 10 percent discount on the food bill (discount is valid for 30 days from the game date of your ticket). Don Henrico's is also giving away free 1.5 liter Coke for a minimum delivery purchase of P750. For delivery, call West Avenue branch at 372-4561, 373-3148 and Malate branch at 524-9141/34, 450-8117/18.

Atbp

A Renaissance Wedding, a bridal fair featuring over 50 of the most exquisite wedding finery and event/product services suppliers at the New World Renaissance Hotel's Grand Ballroom on July 27-28. There will be a bridal gown exhibit at the hotel's lobby showcasing Renaissance-inspired gowns. At the exhibit's centerstage is a homage to legendary fashion designer Ben Farrales who will display his wedding gown masterpieces as well as his other creations throughout the years. A Bridal Fashion Show will be held on July 27, 6:30 p.m. featuring the creations of the country's most sought-after designers. For details, call 811-6888.

The Cultural Center of the Philippines invites students and working professionals to join the **CCP Ushering Staff** on a part-time basis. To qualify, applicants must be 18 to 28 years old, with a height of 5'8" for males and 5'3" for females; conversant in English (third language/dialect is an advantage); with pleasing personality, and are willing to stay up late at nights and weekends. Interested parties may submit their resumé with latest ID photo at the 2/F, House Management Division, Theater Operations Dept. from Tuesday to Friday, 2-6 p.m. For details, call 832-1125 loc. 1412 or 833-2125.

Learn how to assemble your own PC, configure hardware, install software and troubleshoot basic computer problems through a **Computer Assembly Workshop** on July 28, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Isis International-Manila, 3 Marunong St., Teacher's Village Ext. Fee inclusive of CD package, certificate and lunch. For reservations, call 417-1521 or 0919-7833468.

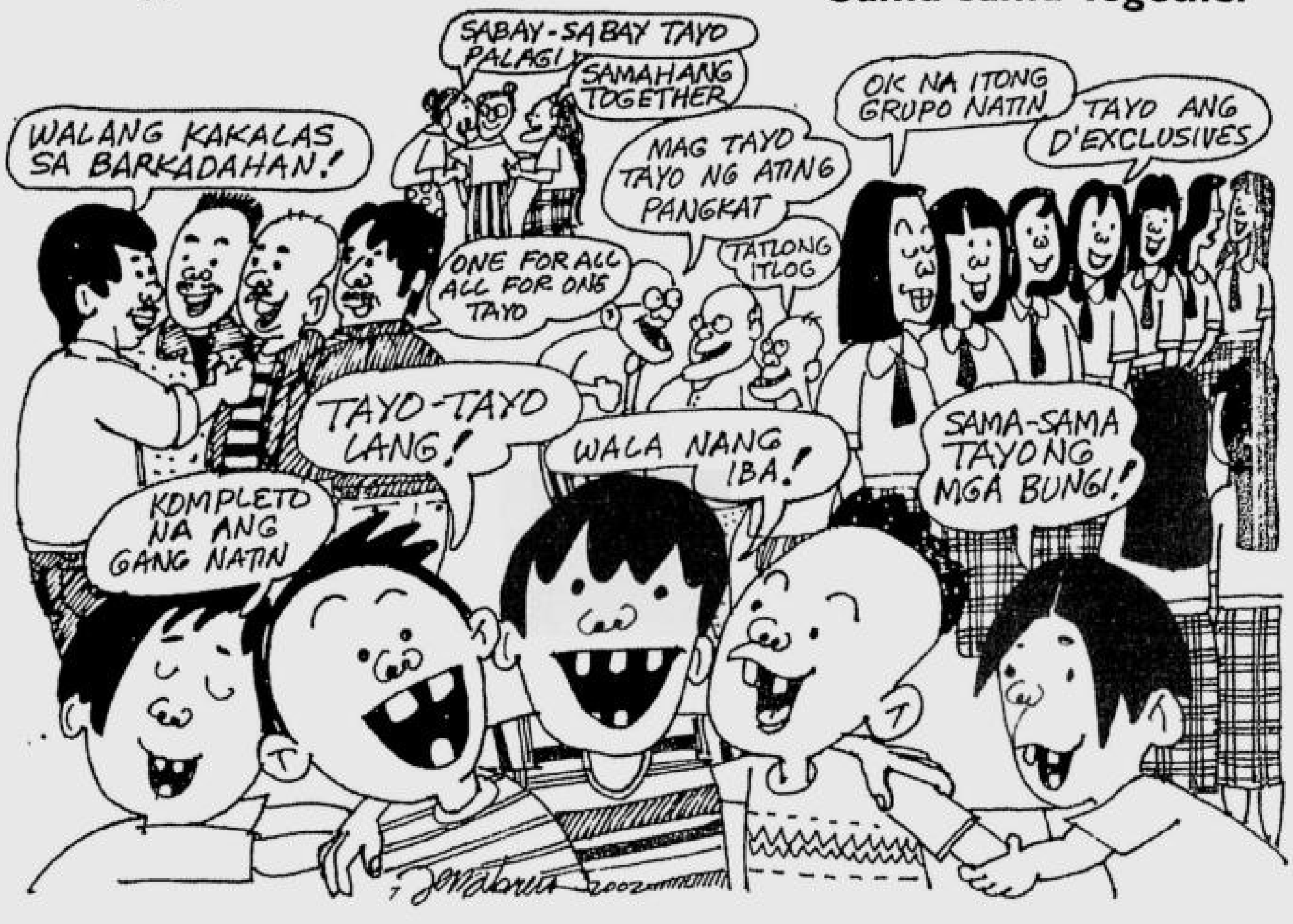
Explore the latest models of intelligence such as Multiple Intelligence, Emotional Quotient, Spiritual Intelligence and Adversity Quotient through **The Whole Brain Approach to Learning and Creativity seminar-workshop** on July 27-28, at the Human Resources Center, 2/F Hoeffner Building, Ateneo de Manila University. For details, call 434-5381 or 0919-7091436.

Mano Mano, a fair trade store located at the 3/L Expansion Mall of Robinsons Galleria, offers 25 percent discount when you purchase a 12-piece set or any 12-piece collection. Also take part of its regular price-off weekends and find great deals on various handcrafted packaging, home decor and gift items. For details, call 564-4169 or 563-7251.

Pinoy Nga

By Jess Abrera

Sama-sama Together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For this week's bands and schedules call:

- Hard Rock Café (893-4662-65)
- Virgin Café : QC (926-7982)
- '70s Bistro: 46 Anonas St., QC (922-0492)
- Hobbit House: 1801 Mabini St., Malate, Manila (521-7604)
- Strumm's: El Pueblo, Ortigas (637-3009)

The SUNDAY INQUIRER MAGAZINE welcomes listings of events in and outside Metro Manila. Please send announcements at least two weeks in advance, and include contact numbers for inquiries on schedules.

Escaping Within

TO many, The Cenacle Retreat House has become a wellspiring of spiritual renewal right in suburban Quezon City. It's non-denominational and non-judgmental; you can join scheduled thematic weekend retreats or contact them (tel. nos. 426-0663, 426-0672, 434-6943, e-mail cenacolo@skyinet.net)for private sessions. In such an unconnected world, it helps to get in touch with what matters.

A schedule of the year's retreats at the Cenacle

July 26-28 — What Do I Want? Praying the Desires of My Heart
Aug. 2-4 — Do You Have The Power to Do?
Aug 16-18 — Transformations: Towards the Healing of Your Family Dynamics
Aug. 23-25 — Sabbath: Finding Rest and Delight in Our Daily Lives
Aug. 30-Sept. 1—Listening with the Heart: Praying the Choices in Our Life
Sept. 6-8—Spirituality for the Midlifer
Sept. 14-15 — Embracing the Wisdom Years
Sept. 20-22 — Imaging Women's Spirituality
Sept. 27-29 — Effective Christian Living
Oct. 11-13 — Praying Our Friendships: Gift, Sacrament, Commitment
Oct. 4-6—Care Giving: Walking the Joyful But Difficult Path
Oct. 18-20 — Sexuality and Spirituality
Oct. 25-27 — Managing Stress in Daily Life
Nov. 8-10—Praying our Belovedness: The Unique Voice of Henri Nouwen
Nov. 15-17 — Praying Over Our Life Passages
Nov. 22-24—Discovering God's Healing Presence
Dec. 6-8 — Advent Retreat

Firma recently opened its second store at Greenbelt 3, Ayala Center in Makati. The Makati branch will further develop the style of merchandising Firma has been known for—not your usual home accents, furniture, jewelry and art pieces that bring surprise to even the most jaded shoppers. Store hours are from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily. For details, call 757-4009.

Adarna House is offering a series of storytelling workshops called ***Kuwentong Adarna* at The Outlet Yard**. For details, call 372-3548 to 49. Schedules are as follows: July 28—Children's Workshop Storytelling Session & Basic Clay Art Worksop; Aug. 3—Adults' Workshop Storytelling Workshop; Aug. 4—Clay Art Exhibit and Storytelling Sessions.

Healing and Integration for Life and Options Management is inviting caregivers and survivors to attend **Palit-Palihan: A Workshop Consultation Series for Caregivers and Survivors of Incest** on July 26 and 27. Workshop fee is P1,000 inclusive of meals and handouts. For inquiries, call Liza at 400-0865 or 0918-5384184.

The College Editors Guild of the Philippines celebrates its **Campus Press Freedom Week** on July 22-26. A Freedom Run involving member publications, CEGP alumni and friends will be held at the University of the Philippines-Diliman campus on July 24, 4 p.m. The week-long festival culminates with a Cultural Night dubbed "Volumes '71: A Cultural Tribute to the Makers of History" on July 25, 5 p.m. at the Crowded House at the back of Vinsons Hall, UP Diliman. For details, call CEGP National at 0919-8831251 (Ronalyn), 0919-4391962 (Mai), 0919-5895812 (Mark).

Disney Theatricals Production (Australia) announces the **open auditions for the male and female roles in the Australian production of "The Lion King"** set to open in Sydney in October 2003. Registration is on July 26-28, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the GSIS Theater Rehearsal Hall, GSIS Headquarters Building, Financial Center, Roxas Blvd., Pasay City. Please bring biodata and headshots. Auditions are set on July 29, 30, 31 and Aug. 1 at the GSIS Theater. Applicants should prepare a contemporary pop/rock song that displays his/her vocal range. Bring music scores/sheets to auditions. A pianist will be provided. For details, call 524-6454, 524-6451 or 551-1302.

X-manila

Winning Moments, Philip Villanueva's photo exhibit featuring 30 award-winning photos taken in old Negros provinces, until July 31 at the Negros Museum.

Drowing-Drowing, an exhibit featuring the works by artists from Cebu City with a few coming from the Visayas region, ongoing at the 3/L, SM Cebu Art Center. For details, call 917-5462672.

There will be a **Marriage Encounter Weekend Seminar** on July 26-28 at the Jubilee Retreat Center at La Salette, Silang, Cavite. Spiritual director is Fr. Deo Layug of La Salette. For details, call Jerry/Paulette Hernandez at 926-3002 or 0917-8166471.

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Computer Engineering
Computer Fundamentals/Basic Programming
Dental Assistant
Diesel Mechanic
Dressmaking/Pattern-Cutting & Design
Effective English
Electric Motor Repairman
Electronic Instrumentation & Control
Electronic Service Technician
Electronics Engineering
English Proficiency & Speech Improvement
Executive Assistant
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General Drafting
Gunsmith
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HIGH SCHOOL (YEAR 1 TO 4)

Michelle

...from page 3

"Butterfly." Her metamorphosis from former beauty queen to TV host to children's book author came unexpectedly. She relates how it happened. "Ogie had a meeting with Mr. (Ramon) Chuaying. I followed him to the restaurant where they were meeting. Then Ogie asked, 'What were you doing?' I said 'I was writing.' Then Mr. Chuaying asked me what I was writing, so I told him all about the story. After I told him, I explained that it was very personal and that I had just written it for Leila. For me, it was almost like a journal. But Mr. Chuaying thought it would be a good idea to publish it. I didn't really think it was good enough, but everyone was so *makulit* about the project, so finally, I agreed."

Michelle is very honest about the book and about her abilities as a writer. She knows that criticism is bound to come, but she intends to treat every comment the same, whether good or bad. At the same time, she hopes people—young and old—will appreciate the book's message.

"There's a message here for all kids," says Michelle. "It's that life is really beautiful. There's so much to see. But because we're in such a hurry to grow up, or to get where we're going, we miss the important things, like family, friends, people we grew up with. That's the message I want to send to my daughter, that she shouldn't be in such a hurry to grow up, because there's so much beauty in the world that goes unappreciated."

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